



Security Council extends UNMIS mandate

The UN Security Council has extended UNMIS' mandate until 31 October 2007 and requested Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to urgently appoint a new Special Representative for Sudan. The Council, which met on 30 April, also called on parties to the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) to carry out security reforms; disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) of combatants; full and verified redeployment of forces by 9 July 2007; precise demarcation of the 1 January 1956 North/South border; resolve the Abyei problem; and hold timely national elections.

Tripoli meeting urges solution for Darfur

An international meeting on Darfur held in Tripoli on 28 and 29 April underlined the urgency of finding a sustainable solution to the Darfur crisis. Meeting participants called on all parties to immediately cease hostilities and facilitate humanitarian delivery; stressed that the political process be given priority; emphasized that the peace process be more inclusive; and expressed solidarity with the AU and UN Special Envoys' initiatives for Darfur.

The meeting was attended by representatives from Sudan, Chad, Egypt, Eritrea, Libya, China, France, Russia, United Kingdom, United States, Canada, Netherlands, Norway, the African Union, the European Union, the League of Arab States, and the United Nations.

DSRSG Manuel Aranda da Silva meets SalvaKiir

Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General to Sudan Manuel Aranda da Silva met on 29 April with First Vice-President and President of Southern Sudan Salva Kiir. During the discussions, which focused on the Multi-Donor Trust Fund, DDR and Darfur, Mr. Kiir informed DSRSG da Silva about the Sudan People's Liberation Movement's (SPLM) plan to assist with the Darfur political process and make contacts with non-signatories to the region's peace accord.

Southern Sudan pledges \$55 million to WFP

The Government of Southern Sudan (GoSS) pledged \$55 million to WFP rebuilding projects in the south, including \$41 million for the agency's Road Building and Demining Programme and \$14 million for refurbishing airstrips. Southern Sudan Minister of Roads and Transport Rebecca Garang Nyandeng

HEARD on RADIO MIRAYA:

On arrest warrants by the International Criminal Court (ICC) against Sudan's minister, Ahmed Haroun, and former militia leader, Ali Kushaib, accused of war crimes in Darfur...

"Sudan's stand is clear; it does not acknowledge any right or authority for the International Criminal Court to prosecute any Sudanese citizen."

Mohamed Ali Al-Mardi
Minister of Justice (2 April)

"If any trial has to be made it should be carried out internally and within the country. Sudan has its sovereignty, a system of law, and judicial authority...for imposing punishments if the accusations are proved."

Mustafa Tirab
General Secretary of the SLA
(Mini/Minawi)

"It is in Sudan's interest not to oppose the UN or the ICC. If Sudan chooses to reject the decisions of the ICC and the Security Council...and does not comply with their verdicts, then the outcome would subject Sudan to a path of confrontation which it may not

announced the pledge during a meeting with WFP Executive Director Josette Sheeran, who recently spent three days in Sudan.

During her one-day visit to Juba, Ms. Sheeran also met with GoSS President Salva Kiir Mayardit and reiterated WFP's commitment to increase by 25 per cent the Food for Work programme this year, and triple the School Feeding programme to reach 450,000 students in the south. The WFP will also provide three-month rations to an estimated 430,000 returnees.

Destruction of stockpiled antipersonnel mines

The first batch of 4,488 antipersonnel mines in Sudan were destroyed on 30 April at Al-sailt Area, Khartoum North, during an official ceremony witnessed by about 150 participants from the Government of National Unity, the GoSS, the diplomatic community, UN, civil society and the press. The UN Mine Action Office and the UN Development Programme (UNDP) have been providing the national authorities with technical assistance and support to ensure quality-mine operations and to help them meet their obligations under the Mine Ban Convention.

Da Silva condemns attack on UNHCR staff

UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator Manuel Aranda da Silva strongly condemned the temporary abduction of six staff members of the UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) on 30 April, and the hijacking of UNHCR vehicles by unknown armed men in Um Shalaya, West Darfur. He expressed grave concern over repeated attacks on humanitarian personnel and assets, saying they risked ongoing efforts to provide assistance in the region.

Agencies celebrate World Press Freedom Day

In association with UNMIS, the UNDP the UN Information Center (UNIC), the Youth Forum celebrated **World Press Freedom Day** on 3 May with a round table debate entitled: "The Present & Prospects of Young Journalists in Sudan". Other activities in Khartoum and Juba included press conferences and readings of UN Secretary-General's message for the Day.

Security and Humanitarian Developments

North Darfur

A Sudan Liberation Army faction, non-signatory to the DPA, claimed that the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) had attacked and bombarded Hashasba North, South and Centre (54 kilometres northwest of Mellit) on 29 April. The AU has not confirmed the allegation.

On 29 and 30 April, local media reported that two Darfur rebel commanders had claimed their forces had shot down a SAF helicopter at Um Rai, North Darfur. The claim has not been confirmed by the SAF, but press reports

be ready to face."

Fadel Allah Hurma Naser
Senior Member, Umma Party

MIRAYA HIGHLIGHTS

Interviews and Features

Expired goods in Juba

market: Dr. Mark Zangabeyo, Under-Secretary, Ministry of Trade & Commerce, GoSS, discusses the issue (26 April).

Public Safety and Road

Usage: Interview with Maj. Gen. Bol John Akot, Assistant General Inspector, Public Safety Division (1 May).

CPA: Interview on power-sharing with Deng Alor, Cabinet Affairs Minister, Government of National Unity.

The Bill of the Political

Parties: Guests included John Orelio, member, United Democratic Forum (UDF), Martin Aligo, member, United Sudan African Party (USAP II) and Sebit Abbe, member, Democratic Forum (DF) (30 April).

Youth & unemployment:

Guests included Naser Aldein Ali and Teresa Moga, members of the Youth Directorate, Ministry of

acknowledged that the air force had lost contact with one of its reconnaissance mission helicopters, 60 kilometres northeast of Kutum.

About 193 new families arrived in Abou Shouk internally displaced persons (IDP) camp (El Fasher) from Dobo Madrassa. Some of the families were housed by relatives in the camp, but others found no accommodation there.

South Darfur

On 29 April, two INGO vehicles carrying five staff members were stopped by several armed men between Abu Dungal and Shearia (80 kilometres northeast of Nyala). The attackers hijacked one vehicle equipped with a radio and satellite telephone. The passengers were allowed to proceed in the second rented vehicle. No injuries were reported.

West Darfur

Unidentified armed men fired shots inside Hassa Hissa IDP camp on 28 April, injuring an elderly woman. The following day IDPs from the Hassa Hissa and Hamadiya IDP camps (Zalengei) demonstrated against the shootings.

Southern Sudan and the Transitional Areas

A major fire broke out on 27 April at the census center in Juba, destroying all records related to the census. The fire was reportedly caused by a short-circuit.

Armed men ambushed a truck travelling to Toroge village (70 kilometres south of Kadugli) on 28 April, killing four passengers and severely injuring three others.

A SAF soldier was stabbed to death and an SPLA soldier injured in Abyei during a dispute. Both the SAF and the SPLA will deal with the issue in court.

Restriction of access continues to be imposed on UNMIS by both SAF and SPLA to the north and south of Abyei, respectively. The restrictions were reimposed on the mission on 28 February.

Culture, Youth & Sport (27 April).

Live debates and call ins:

Election Law: Studio guests included Majid Yousif Yahia, Secretary-General of the National Constitutional Review Commission (NCRC)/National Congress Party, and Robert Lado Benjamin, Member, NCRC/Sudan People's Liberation Movement (27 April).

Darfur: the Road to Peace: Darfur-Darfur Dialogue and Consultation (DDDC)

In a special two part series, Abdallah Adam Khater, a journalist and Darfur affairs specialist, discusses the DDDC.

UN Mirror

HIV/AIDS

Interview with Fatima Farrouk, of the HIV/AIDS unit, UNDP. Includes reports on the rights of HIV/AIDS patients in Sudan and a feature describing how community leaders in South Kordofan involve their youth in conflict resolution.