



# SUDAN MORNING NEWS

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### US-Sudan talks suspended

- The news about suspending the talks between US and Sudan on normalizing their relationship was highlighted in almost all newspapers in Sudan. Some of the papers described it as “the collapsing of talks,” others said the Special Envoy overturned the table. They all agreed that the failure to settle the Abyei problem was the major reason for the suspension.

- US Special Envoy Richard Williamson was quoted saying “at this point the leadership of either side is not interested in meaningful peace.” He told reporters that he is “sad and disappointed, until north and south Sudan wanted peace there’s nothing the US or others can do.”

- Commenting on the Special Envoy’s decision to halt the talks, the Sudanese Presidential Adviser Nafie Ali Nafie told the media that Williamson’s decision is not justified,” adding that “linking the continuation of dialogue to the Abyei problem is a position we don’t understand.” Nafie was also quoted saying that the Special Envoy’s position does not express his convictions, but it seems like he was asked to convey it to us,” hinting that he might have been instructed by Washington to do so.

- Yasser Arman, Sudan People’s Liberation Movement (SPLM) Deputy Secretary General, said that his movement exerted efforts to solve the crisis, and blamed the National Congress Party by saying “the other side is trying to retreat from the Power Sharing Protocol.”

- In another development, the First Vice President of Sudan and President of the Government of Southern Sudan Salva Kiir Mayardit called yesterday for talks with the central authority in Khartoum to contain the Abyei crisis, and he ruled

out any renewal of violence in Abyei. He also asked for the withdrawal of forces from the area. (*Al-Sudani, Al-Sahafa, Akhbar Al-Yom, et al*)

### UNSC delegation in Sudan

The President of the UN Security Council, Amb. John Sawers, said the Council remain committed to the full implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. Sawers is heading a UNSC delegation on a four-day visit to Sudan. The delegation met yesterday with First Vice President Kiir and they discussed the forthcoming general elections, the 2011 referendum, and the recent violence in Abyei. Kiir reaffirmed that the SPLA forces would not fight the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) despite the latter’s troop increase in Abyei. The UNSC delegation is expected to hold talks with President Bashir Thursday. (*Al Sahafa, Ajrass Al Hurria, Akhbar Al-Yom*)

### MPs reject importing foreign farmers

The National Assembly (NA), Sudan’s Parliament, approved yesterday the Agricultural Development Program. A number of the NA members called for a ban on foreign farmers to Sudan and on ownership of farmland by foreigners. (*Al-Ray Al-Aam*)

### AIDS cases on the rise in Southern Sudan

At a World Health Organization workshop, Dr. Milario Aaho, President of AIDS Affairs High Committee in Southern Sudan, said AIDS cases rose by 3.7% in the South and are expected to rise as long as the borders remain open. Aaho said training health care workers and the lack of support from donors are major challenges. (*Al-Ray Al-Aam*)

The Sudan Morning News is compiled as a service of the Public Affairs Section at the U.S. Embassy in Khartoum, Sudan. It presents a partial survey of the current Sudanese press and international reporting about Sudan. This summary does not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Government.