



SUDAN MORNING NEWS

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Signing of Abyei agreement

In the “Friendship Hall” and among a heavy presence of international dignitaries, the two peace partners (NCP and SPLM) signed their agreement to settle the dispute over the oil-rich Abyei region. The agreement provides for the establishment of an Interim Administration for Abyei region to be put in place in two weeks; a southerner to head the interim body; a deputy administrator to be selected by the NCP; the implementation of a system to temporarily demarcate the border; the return of tens of thousands of Internally Displaced Persons; and the formulation of security arrangements for realizing stability in the area. The agreement includes a commitment to a final resolution of the Abyei problem, and the two sides will choose an international arbitrator to draw the borders, and they agreed to be bound by its decision. (*Akhbar Al-Yom, Al-Wefaq, Al-Khartoum, Al-Ayyam, Al-Intibaha, Raay Al-Shaab et al.*)

Misseryya leaders questions to Bashir and Kiir

After the signing ceremony for the Abyei agreement, which was attended by the Misseryya and Dinka tribal leaders (the main residents in Abyei area), several Misseryya leaders gathered around the president of the Government of Southern Sudan, Salva Kiir Mayardit, and asked him to give the green light for the use of traditional methods of conflict resolution. They said these methods are the only solution to the Abyei crisis. Kiir, after a friendly conversation, promised to give these methods a chance to settle any differences between Misseryya and Dinka. President Omar El-Bashir also had his own meeting with the Misseryya and Dinka after the ceremony. They told him they were not consulted on the agreement; they objected to the principle of withdrawing the Sudan Armed Forces 31st Brigade from the area. Bashir calmed them

down and assured them that the Presidency understands their concerns and will not allow the loss of their rights. (*Akhbar Al-Yom*)

Sudan heads to Arab League

The Sudanese authorities are preparing to complain to the Arab League that Libya played a role in supporting the recent Justice and Equality Movement attack on Omdurman. Sudan briefed a number of its regional friends, Egypt and Saudi Arabia in particular, on the Libyan role. Sudan seeks to issue a collective Arabic or African condemnation of Libya. (*Al-Watan*)

Mirghani initiative discussed by other parties

The head of the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), Mohamed Osman Mirghani, has proposed an initiative for national reconciliation and he is beginning to discuss it with other opposition political parties. The initiative is his own and not the party's. Mirghani's initiative is compatible with the recently signed reconciliation agreement between the Umma and NCP parties, a spokesperson for the initiative said. The same spokesperson said that discussions with the Sudan Communist Party (SCP) indicated SCP support for any effort aimed at reconciliation, but the SCP needs time to study the initiative. Meanwhile, DUP spokesperson Hatem Al-Sir criticized Umma party leader Al-Sadeq Al-Mahdi accusing him of attacking other Sudanese party leaders in recent statements he issued in London. Al-Sir said Al-Mahdi's statements contradict his earlier statements on national reconciliation. (*Akhbar Al-Yom*)

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.