



SUDAN MORNING NEWS

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Presidential decree issued to maintain ICC crisis

Yesterday, President Al-Bashir issued a decree to form a committee, headed by First Vice President Salva Kiir and Second Vice President Ali Osman Mohamed Taha as his deputy. The committee will be charged with responding to the International Criminal Court (ICC) allegations against President Bashir by establishing a road-map for reconciliation and coordinating with various channels such as the AU, Arab League, human rights organizations, and the Movement of Non-aligned Countries. It will study legal aspects of the case against the president and seek possible means of promoting dialogue with the international community without jeopardizing the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. (*Akher Lahza, Al-Ahdath, Al-Watan*)

UNAMID peacekeeper killed in Darfur

A report in *Sudan Tribune* stated that a UNAMID officer had been killed in Forubaranga, West Darfur while on patrol. No particular information on how he was killed has been given but investigations are ongoing.

Amr Musa arriving in Khartoum on Sunday

Amr Musa, the Arab League's Secretary General, will be arriving in Khartoum on Sunday to discuss the escalating situation between Sudan and the ICC. "The situation in Sudan is very grave" he said. (*Al-Watan, Akher Lahza*)

AU warns against military coups in Sudan

The AU warned of military coups and extensive disorder in Sudan if President Bashir were to be indicted by the ICC. "We in the African Union believe in justice and do not make allowances for impunity. What we are calling for is a deferment in

the decision because of the risk of anarchy and its possible impact on the region," said Tanzanian Foreign Minister Bernard Membe, speaking on behalf of AU President Kikwete. (*Agras Al-Hurria*)

President Al-Bashir, Umma in mutual agreement

President Al-Bashir and Umma Party leader Saddig Al-Mahdi reached an agreement regarding the Darfur issue during a meeting yesterday. They discussed recommendations made by the joint committee for the two parties to implement an agreement for national reconciliation between the parties.

Sudan ignores France's threats to sever relations

According to an article in *Al-Ahdath*, Ali Al-Sadig, the Sudanese Foreign Ministry spokesperson that Sudan was not deterred by France's threats to sever its relations with Sudan. "President Al-Bashir shall remain the official President of the Sudan, whether France likes it or not," he told reporters. His statement was in response to an announcement made by Jean-Maurice Rupert, French envoy at the UN, who hinted that his government may suspend its relationship with Sudan's leader if he were indicted. "EU regulations are clear, we shall have no dialogue with individuals accused by ICC," he said. He added that France would oppose any attempts to invoke Article 16 of the ICC which empowers the UN Security Council to suspend the prosecutions of the ICC.

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.