

SUDAN MORNING NEWS

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UN-AU mediator arrives in Khartoum

Joint UN/AU mediator for Darfur Djibril Yipene Bassole arrived in Khartoum to hold talks on the current situation in Darfur, and to pursue the Sudanese government's efforts to enforce peace and stability in the region. Bassole was met by Ali Karti, the Sudanese Foreign Minister of State who told reporters that the visit to Khartoum was the first since Bassole assumed this post. Karti described the selection of Bassole as excellent since he had extensive background on the situation in Africa. (*Agras Al-Hurria, Akher Lahza*)

Phone talks between Al-Bashir and Minnawi

In an exclusive interview with *Akher Lahza*, Mahgoub Fadul Badri, press secretary to the President told reporters that the SLM leader and Special Assistant to the President Minni Minnawi would be resuming his duties at the Presidential Palace very soon. According to Badri, Minnawi had spoken by phone with President Al-Bashir informing him that he was in accord with the government. "We are looking forward to him resuming his duties," said Badri.

UN: Darfur humanitarian work continuing

The UN's Humanitarian Coordinator issued a press release yesterday assuring the people of Sudan that the UN was continuing its life-saving services to the citizens of Darfur in spite of poor conditions facing NGO's and their humanitarian activities. The UN official called on the support of the relevant authorities in the government to help sustain aid services to the needy civilians stressing that the work of these organizations was guided by the principles of impartiality and the provision of humanitarian assistance to all in need. (*Al-Ahdath*, *The Citizen*)

Arab attorney delegation arriving tomorrow

An Arab lawyers' group is scheduled to arrive in Khartoum tomorrow to announce support to Sudan and to form a legal mechanism to address the ICC allegations against President Al-Bashir. The delegation will meet with the President and with a number of judicial and legislative organs as well as a meeting with the press. (*Agras Al-Hurria, The Citizen*)

Sudan to restore relations with Chad

According to an article in *The Sudan Tribune*, Sudan has agreed to restore diplomatic relations with Chad. The two states had broken off their ties following a rebel attack in Omdurman last May. The agreement was reached last week after a meeting between Sudan Foreign Minister Deng Alor and his Chadian counterpart, Moussa Faki Mahamat.

Salva Kiir to hold talks in Uganda

First Vice President to GoS and President of GOSS, Salva Kiir, is scheduled to travel to Uganda next week to discuss the presence of the Lord's Resistance Army rebels in the South of Sudan. Kiir denied that there had been orders to withdraw Ugandan troops from the South. "This is a matter which cannot be resolved in a day," he added. (*Al-Rai 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.