



SUDAN MORNING NEWS

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Kiir to run for president in 2009

- Salva Kiir, Sudan's First Vice President and the Government of Southern Sudan's President and Chairman of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) has been nominated by his party to run for president in the 2009 general election. The decision was taken during a meeting of the SPLM's political bureau in Juba. If Kiir runs for president and wins the election, he would be the first southerner in Sudan's 52-year history to lead the nation. (*Khartoum Monitor, Sudan Tribune*)

- Any Sudanese citizen has the right to be nominated for the presidency of Sudan or for any public office, according to the country's constitution and the recently approved Elections Act, Sudan's Second Vice President Ali Osman Mohamed Taha told the press following his meeting July 27 with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in Cairo. Taha added that President Omar Al-Bashir "would present himself to the Sudanese people in the context of legitimate democratic competition." (*SUNA*)

- The SPLM's nomination of Salva Kiir for the presidency has nothing to do with the current ICC crisis, according to Yassir Arman, SPLM's deputy secretary general for the northern sector. He said the SPLM is focusing on solving the Darfur issue and focusing on winning the upcoming general elections. (*Al-Sudani*)

France, Britain propose solution to ICC crisis

Sudanese Foreign Minister Deng Alor has submitted to President Al-Bashir a proposal by France and Britain for helping defuse the crisis created when the International Criminal Court (ICC) Chief Prosecutor Luis-Moreno Ocampo announced allegations of genocide against the

Sudanese leader. Alor did not provide details of the proposals, saying only that they were good. According to published reports, France and Britain have urged Sudan to cooperate with Sudan and hand over two suspects – state humanitarian affairs minister Ahmed Haroun and former senior Janjaweed commander Ali Koshayb -- wanted by the court for an earlier case of crimes against humanity and war crimes. (*Akhir Lahza, Sudan Tribune online*)

Egypt's Mubarak confirms support for Bashir

Egyptian President Mubarak has affirmed his support to Sudan and its leader President Al-Bashir in the wake of the ICC allegations. Mubarak met July 27 in Cairo with Sudan's Second Vice President Ali Osman Mohamed Taha. Taha told the press afterwards that it is a priority for Sudan to resolve the Darfur conflict and to hold accountable those who cause tension or conflict to break out. (*Al-Rai Al-Aam, Al-Sudani, Al-Ayyam, et al*)

Darfur rebel coalition splinters

Three rebel groups have defected from a coalition of Darfur rebels formed earlier this year under the auspices of UN and AU mediators, who had sought to achieve peace in Darfur by unifying different movements. The three groups have defected because the front failed to meet its objectives and they felt their leadership was being sabotaged by their former partners. (*Sudan Tribune online*)

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.