



SUDAN MORNING NEWS

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AU Chief discusses peacekeeping operations

Following his meeting with President Al-Bashir yesterday, African Union Commission Chairman Jean Ping revealed that he had exchanged views with Sudanese officials concerning the UNAMID forces and facilitating the mission of the joint mediator, Djibril Bassole. Ping indicated that his talks with the Sudanese leader were constructive and fruitful. Ping also pointed out that the International Criminal Court Prosecutor's report would adversely affect the deployment of hybrid forces and the peace process in the already troubled Darfur. "It's like pouring oil on fire," said Ping. He added that he would hold discussions with rebel factions to achieve comprehensive peace in Darfur. (*Al-Wifaq, Al-Sahafa, Al-Rai Al-Aam, Sudan Vision*)

Al-Bashir receives letter from Chadian leader

Sudanese President Omer Al-Bashir received a letter from Chadian President Idris Deby. The message was delivered by Abdu Abari, head of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group (ACP) delegation visiting Khartoum to discuss the ICC allegations. The letter stated that Chad wishes to resume its bilateral ties with Sudan. President Al-Bashir welcomed the gesture from his Chadian counterpart and assured Abari of Sudan's desire to reciprocate and to normalize the relationship between the two countries. (*Al-Rai Al-Aam, Akher Lahza*)

Committee reviews French proposal

A high-level committee examining the Darfur crisis, headed by First Vice President Salva Kiir Mayardit, is scheduled to meet today in Khartoum to review and discuss a non-official proposal by France to resolve the Darfur crisis as well as the possible issue of an arrest warrant against President Al-Bashir by the International Criminal Court. (*Akher Lahza, Al-Sahafa*)

ICC counsel: GoS mishandled case

The Citizen ran an interview with one of the International Criminal Court (ICC) registered counsels, Dr. Hadi Shalluf, who told *Sudan Tribune online* reporters that the Sudanese government was mishandling the ICC case against President Omer Al Bashir. Shalluf has closely followed the Darfur case in the ICC. He said he was appointed by the ICC judges to represent the general interests of the defense in the Darfur case during the proceedings. Shalluf filed a series of motions to challenge the jurisdiction of the Court and the admissibility of the Darfur case at the ICC. His motions were rejected by the ICC. He said he agrees with the position of the Government of Sudan vis-à-vis the ICC, but added that his reasons are "purely legal." Shalluf called on the Sudanese government to deal rationally with the ICC and stressed that Khartoum's options are becoming limited as time goes by. He advised Sudan to accept a special court that would include Sudanese judges. He also warned that Al-Bashir faced possible arrest if he traveled abroad.

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.