



SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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Interim administration for Abyei

A presidential decree to form a temporary administration in Abyei will be issued in the next 24 hours to end the crisis between the National Congress Party (NCP) and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM). The decision was made after a meeting held yesterday between Sudanese President Omar Al-Bashir and his First Vice-President Salva Kiir Mayardit to discuss the resolutions made by the appointed Darfur crisis committee at their meeting this week. The two discussed the political and legal aspects of the proposal made by the SPLM in dealing with the "International Criminal Court crisis" and decided on forming an interim administrative body for Abyei as part of the implementation process of the road map agreement. (*Al-Sahafa, Akhbar Al-Yom, et al*)

Umma Party leader criticizes decree

The Umma Party leader, Al-Sadig Al-Mahdi, criticized the decree issued by the Government of Sudan to assign a chief prosecutor for the crimes in Darfur, rendering the step "unsuccessful." Yesterday, Al-Mahdi told *Al-Jazeera* that the decision gave the "wrong message to the international community." *Al-Jazeera* also spoke to the Secretary General of the Sudanese Communist Party, Mohammed Ibrahim Nugud, who said that "any decision that was unconvincing to the armed movements would be useless." Meanwhile, Minister of Justice Abdul Bassit Sabdarat denied that the step made by the Sudanese Government was a reaction to the allegations made by the International Criminal Court Prosecutor General, Luis Moreno-Ocampo but rather "a gesture of goodwill in an attempt to serve justice." (*Al-Sudani*)

Defense delegation in Darfur to study security

A senior Sudanese delegation headed by the Minister of Defense, Abdelraheem Mohammed Hussein, and three other senior defense officials arrived in El Fasher yesterday to study security and humanitarian conditions in Darfur. The step is part of a government initiative "to establish peaceful existence within the region." The Minister told reporters that the aim of this visit was to "ascertain road and travel security in all the regions of Darfur," in addition to studying humanitarian conditions of the displaced living in camps and means for their resettlement." He added that the delegation "would look into finding effective measures for the safety of foreign and local aid agencies to assist them in implementing their objectives effectively." (*Al-Rai Al-Aam*)

Southern Sudan threatened by hunger

"The present global escalating rise in the prices of food and oil is worrying the Government of Southern Sudan," said Dr. Samson Kwaje, the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry for the Government of Southern Sudan in mid-July. Last week, a UN worker confirmed Kwaje's announcement, saying that "southern Sudan depends entirely on food from neighboring countries," putting the region's 10 million people at risk. The situation is seen as "a major setback that threatens to roll back the gains made by the Comprehensive Peace Agreement." (*Sudan Tribune, The Citizen, Al-Sahafa, Al-Sudani*)

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.