



SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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President Al-Bashir to visit Juba

The Sudanese President Omer Al-Bashir is scheduled to visit Juba this week to meet with officials from various government organs. Al-Bashir will chair a joint Council of Ministers meeting to review outstanding issues on the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement and will meet with the Legislative Assembly of Southern Sudan. The Sudanese President is expected to sign a number of contracts aimed at development projects to be implemented in southern Sudan. The step is seen as important towards strengthening the relationship between the two peace partners. (*The Citizen, Sudan Tribune, Sudan Vision*)

Sudan calls on Security Council for apology

Abdul-Mahmoud Abdul-Halim, Sudan's Permanent Envoy to the United Nations, mentioned in a press interview with the Sudan News Agency (SUNA) that Sudan has called on the Security Council for "a final cancellation and an apology to the Sudanese people and its leadership" in regards to the request made by Luis Moreno-Ocampo, the Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC) to issue an arrest warrant against Sudanese President Al-Bashir on alleged war crimes and genocide in Darfur. The interview was conducted on the sidelines of the recent African/Turkish Summit. Abdul-Halim said that the "ICC prosecutor's heinous allegations were formulated by circles that were hostile to Sudan with the aim to tarnish the nation's image and to abort its efforts to achieve development and democratic change." He added "the whole world was now standing alongside Sudan, excluding some western countries that are hostile to Sudan." (SUNA)

JEM rejects GoS initiative

- According to *Sudan Tribune* August 23, the Darfur Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) rejected a request made by President Omer Hassan Al-Bashir last month to invite all political forces, including the non-signatories to the Darfur Peace Agreement, to take part in an initiative that would "unite all the people of Sudan." JEM said in a statement that "the ruling National Congress Party (NCP) continues military operations on the ground while talking about peace. Al-Bashir cannot be the defendant and the judge at the same time." The Darfur rebel group has pledged to protect UNAMID forces in Darfur should the Sudanese president decide to expel them if an arrest warrant is issued.

- An article in *Al-Ahdath* has mentioned that NCP considered JEM's rejection of Al-Bashir's initiative as a "premature rejection" to any proposal made by the NCP, regardless of its outcome, and that does not bode well for the initiative's success to "unite all the political parties in Sudan."

GOSS denies Kiir's candidature for elections

Martin Majut, Director of the Presidential Office of the Government of South Sudan (GOSS) denied reports that Salva Kiir Mayardit has been nominated as a candidate for the forthcoming presidential elections to be held next year in Sudan. "Anybody from the Sudan People's Liberation Movement might be nominated to run for the presidential elections," he said. (*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.