



SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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Washington welcomes peace initiatives in Darfur

The U.S. Administration has expressed its appreciation of any initiative that would encourage peace in Darfur. The announcement came yesterday in a speech made by Alberto Fernandez, the American Charge d' Affairs to Khartoum, during the Ramadan Iftar dinner hosted by the U.S. Embassy, on September 17. During the speech, Fernandez urged the Government of Sudan not to shrink back from breaking the cycle of violence and hatred once and for all. (*Ajras Al Hurria, Al Sahafa, Al Rai Al Aam*)

UN Rapporteur labeled as "EU agent"

Yesterday Sudan accused Sudan human rights rapporteur Sima Samar of working as "an agent" for the European Union (EU) against Sudan. John Ukec Lueth Ukec, Permanent Representative of Sudan to the United Nations Office in Geneva, made the announcement in front of the United Nations Human Rights Council during a meeting held to discuss the termination of Samar's mandate in Darfur. Ukec said that "Samar's mission in Darfur was to tarnish Sudan's efforts to restore peace in Darfur." Abdel Daim Zumrawi, Head of the Sudanese delegation, asked the Human Rights Council not to renew Samar's mandate stating that Samar had "failed to condemn rebel attacks in Darfur." He further attested that other human rights monitors were deployed throughout Sudan and that the UN Commissioner Office for Human Rights issued regular reports. African and Islamic blocs attending the meeting backed the Sudanese move. (*Al-Rai-Al-Aam, Al-Ahdath, Khartoum Monitor*)

Taha to discuss Abuja with Minnawi

A meeting held yesterday between officials from the National Congress Party and the Sudan Liberation Movement/Minnawi faction discussed

security arrangements concerning the implementation of the Abuja agreement. The meeting came as an initiative by the Second Vice President Ali Osman Mohammed Taha, who intends to confer with Minnawi in Al-Fasher on Friday to defuse any tension between the two parties and to convey the government's intent to implement all of its obligations to the Abuja agreement. (*Rai-Al-Shaab, Al Watan*)

France, Qatar discuss Arab initiative for Darfur

Burno Joubert, the French Presidential Advisor for African Affairs, met with Qatari officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Doha to seek realization of the Arab initiative in Darfur and to discuss France's role in the initiative. Meanwhile, the Sudanese government declared its full support for Qatari mediation in Darfur, pointing out that Qatar's proposal was the only one that gleaned the support of the African Union. (*Sudan Vision*)

Khalil warns of negotiating Khartoum alone

According to an online publication by the Sudanese Media Centre (SMC), Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) Chairman Khalil Ibrahim warned other Darfuri rebel movements that he would negotiate with the Sudanese government by himself if the respective factions failed to "unite politically." The report stated that Khalil insisted on a specific time-frame to negotiate a ceasefire agreement with the government.

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.

