



SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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Nafie holds talks with French officials

A delegation, led by presidential aide, Nafie Ali Nafie, is currently in Paris to hold talks with senior French officials on a number of issues of mutual concern, particularly Darfur. Suleiman Mohamed Mustafa, the Sudanese Ambassador to France, told reporters from Sudan News Agency (SUNA) that the meeting would tackle the current situation in Darfur and the French role in the Qatari peace initiative. Mustafa pointed out that the visit was a continuation of the previous talks held by the Sudanese Minister of Foreign Affairs and Presidential Advisor Mustafa Osman Ismail. (*Akhbar Al Youm, Akhir Lahza, Al-Sudani*)

SPLM criticizes delay of Electoral Commission

Yasir Arman, the Chairman of the Northern wing of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM), blamed the National Congress Party (NCP) for delaying the formation of an Electoral Commission and told reporters in a press conference held yesterday that the "delay in the formation of the Electoral Commission was a violation of the Electoral Law" and mentioned that both SPLM and NCP already agreed on who would chair the Commission. He further called on the National Assembly to exert efforts to hasten the commission's formation as the delay has "a negative political impact on all parties." (*Rai-Al-Shaab, Akhbar-Al-Youm, Al-Rai-Al-Aam, Al-Sudani*)

MFA slams U.S. candidates' no-fly over Darfur

Ali Al-Sadig, the official spokesperson of the Sudanese Foreign Ministry, criticized U.S. vice presidential candidates' statements on imposing a no-fly zone over Darfur in a debate last week. Al-Sadig said that the proposal was "short-sighted" because it would hinder the Sudanese government's

ability to transport humanitarian aid and to control the armed robberies which threaten the security and stability in the region. (*Al Sudani*)

Al-Jaz derides impact of global crisis

Awad Al-Jaz, the Sudanese Minister of Finance and National Economy, belittled the impact of the current global financial crisis on Sudan's national economy, mentioning that the American economic ban on Sudan has isolated the Sudanese economy from having trade links with western countries. He further indicated that the international financial crisis has shown the disadvantages of a "capitalist economy" and affirmed the necessity of working to attract direct investments and boosting the banking and financial sector. (*Ajras-Al Hurria, Akhir Lahza*)

Qatari/Libyan talks on Darfur

Hamad Bin Jassim Al-Thani, the Qatari Prime Minister is in Libya today to discuss ongoing peace talks concerning Darfur. Qatar officially proposed to host peace talks between the different parties in Darfur conflict. The meeting discussed the tasks to be undertaken by the tripartite committee to mediate Darfur peace talks. The meeting also tackled normalization of Sudan-Chad relations and the Libyan efforts to end the five year conflict in Darfur. (*SudanTribune.com*)

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.