



# SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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## **Kiir urges government to plan for elections**

First Vice-President of Sudan Salva Kiir Mayardit addressed the joint session of the Council of States and the Southern Sudan Legislative Assembly, which convened yesterday in Juba. In his address, Kiir urged the Council of States to expedite the passing of the Southern Sudan Referendum Act. He also encouraged the government to start planning to ensure timely and transparent elections. (*Al-Sudani*)

## **Parliament criticizes Ministry of Interior**

A number of members of Parliament (MP's) criticized Ibrahim Mahmoud Hamid, the Sudanese Minister of Interior, on a report on the security situation in the Kalma Camp in Darfur and on Al-Awaj, in Nile State, that he had submitted earlier to the members of Parliament. Hamid was questioned by the parliamentary members who expressed their concern around the current section in the Ministry, which was responsible for "political" surveillance and resorted to harsh and forceful measures to deter civilians. (*Al-Sudani, Sudan Tribune*)

## **Minister reviews bilateral relations with Russia**

Awad Ahmed Al Jaz, the Sudanese Minister of Finance and National Economy, met with the Russian Ambassador in Khartoum to discuss means to boost bilateral relations between the two countries and to further cooperation. During the meeting, Al-Jaz stressed the importance of expanding agricultural investment to lessen dependence on oil. (*SUNA*)

## **UNMIS exchanges information with Ocampo**

According to an article in Sudan Vision, reported by the Sudanese Media Centre (SMC), ICC Chief

Prosecutor Luis Moreno-Ocampo made contact with Jean-Marie Guéhenno, former UN Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, to provide him with information pertaining to alleged war crimes in Darfur. The article further alleged that Ocampo told Guéhenno "he would keep the exchange of information secret." Meanwhile, Guéhenno reportedly agreed to send any relevant documents to the prosecutor's office through a third partner.

## **IDP's protest for not being part of Initiative**

Hussien Sajo, the official spokesperson from the Abushok IDP Camp, told reporters from Miraya FM that refugees in Abushok IDP Camp, in northern Darfur, were angered because they were not invited to participate in the forum of the Sudan People's Initiative held in Kenana. Sajo further stated that "the move on the part of the government proves that it is not serious in solving the Darfur crisis." (*Miraya FM*)

## **Nepalese police officers arrived in Nyala**

One hundred and eighty police officers from Nepal arrived in Nyala yesterday to participate in the UNAMID peacekeeping mission in Darfur. The Nepalese forces have been deployed for the protection of displaced persons and to aid convoys, in addition to providing training on the prevention of attacks against civilians. (*Sudan Vision, Khartoum Monitor*)

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.