



SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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Minnawi meets Qadhafi in Libya

Mini Arco Minnawi, Senior Presidential Aide and Chairman of the Transitional Regional Authority for Darfur, is currently holding talks in Libya with Colonel Moammar Al-Qadhafi, as well as some Abuja non-signatories. Minnawi will brief the Libyan leadership on the latest developments of the peace process in Sudan and the steps taken by the Government of Sudan toward implementation of the Sudan People's Initiative and its parallel Qatari-sponsored Arab/African Initiative. (*Akhir Lahza*)

UN/Kassala State agree on development projects

The Kassala State government announced that it has reached a deal with the United Nations and other domestic and foreign organizations to give priority to development projects proposed by the government in Kassala. The Commissioner of the State for Humanitarian Aid, Idris Ali Mohammed, stated that the commission has invited UN agencies for a meeting to discuss a number of issues with regard to humanitarian affairs and means of strengthening coordination between the government and the UN, as well as other related organizations. (*Al-Rai-Al-Aam, Akher Lahza*)

Darfur movement dismisses Bashir statements

Abdel-Wahid Al-Nur, leader of the Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM), dismissed Sudanese President Al-Bashir's statement in Doha that "France would put pressure on SLM to join in future peace talks." Said Al-Nur, "it would be better for him [Al-Bashir] to create a conducive environment instead of such unproductive declarations." The SLM leader further described Bashir's statements as "lip service" and stated that he "would not change his movement's stance" on

the peace process. He went on to point out that "the embattled president actually wants to persuade Sarkozy to vote in favor of suspending his indictment by the International Criminal Court more than to achieve peace in Darfur." (*Sudantribune.com*)

JEM delegation holds peace talks in Qatar

A Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) delegation is currently holding peace talks in Doha with the AU-UN Joint Mediator Djibril Bassole and the Qatari Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Ahmed Bin Abdallah Al Mahmoud. An official JEM spokesperson confirmed that the delegation had delivered its vision of how to resolve the Darfur crisis to Al Mahmoud. (*Al-Sahafa*)

Defection of 25 Kordufani leaders

Twenty-five Kordufani rebel leaders "defected and surrendered to state authorities" in Kordufan. Faisal Hassan Ibrahim, the Wali (governor) of North Kordufan, declared an amnesty for the defected leaders and pledged to assist with their integration into civilian life. (*Al Sahafa*)

Obama "an opportunity" for better relations

An editorial by Kuyok Abol Kuyok in *The Citizen* cites that "U.S. President-elect Barack Obama's presidency presents the south of Sudan with an important opening to strengthen its relations with America for the benefit of its people." Kukok also noted that the Government of Southern Sudan "has to strategize to become part of the American foreign policy." (*The Citizen*)

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