



SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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January 26, 2009

Sudanese diplomat meets EU representative

The Chargé d'Affaires of Sudan's embassy in Belgium, Hamdi Hassabal-Rassoul Osman, met with Torben Bryllie, the European Union (EU) Special Envoy to Sudan and Chad, in Brussels on Sunday to discuss the repercussions of the International Criminal Court (ICC)'s possible issuance of an arrest warrant against the Sudanese President Omer Al-Bashir. Osman warned the EU official of "the consequences of such an action" could "affect the stability and security of Sudan and result in chaos as well as bringing the development process in Sudan to a halt." Osman labeled the ICC as a legal instrument that has been "abused and politically exploited" by Chief Prosecutor Louis Moreno-Ocampo. The Sudanese diplomat pointed out that the Sudanese government was "determined to push ahead with the peace process" and "will be holding the elections as scheduled." (*Sudan News Agency*)

Darfuri sultan offers reconciliation initiative

The sultan of the Darfuri Massalit tribe, Saad Bahr-El-Din, has offered to lead a national reconciliation initiative in Darfur to "strengthen coexistence in the region." He added that he had made contacts with the leaders of all major tribes in Darfur, as well as non-signatories of the Abuja Agreement, and has briefed everyone involved on the objective of the initiative. The sultan also said that "all the relevant parties have expressed a positive response towards the initiative." (*Sudanese Media Centre, Al-Ayam*)

Al-Turabi reportedly moved to Port Sudan

The Secretary-General of the Popular Congress Party (PCP), Hassan Al-Turabi, has reportedly been moved to Port Sudan Prison. Al-Turabi was taken

into custody in mid-January following his remarks regarding Al-Bashir and the ICC, in addition to alleged links with the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM). Al-Turabi was initially believed to be held in Kober prison in Khartoum. According to Al-Turabi's daughter, Omama, his whereabouts are still unknown and the family has been informed that "he will stand trial within the next few days, though the charges against him are still unclear." Omama continued, saying that the "conditions in Port Sudan Prison are very poor" and that the family is "very concerned" about Al-Turabi being moved there. Meanwhile, Sudanese cabinet member Omer Mohamed Salih told reporters last week that the government "will not allow any movements to create instability and confusion." (*Sudantribune.com Al-Rai-Al-Aam, Al-Khartoum*)

D'Escoto: Sudan can solve world food problem

Addressing the Group of 77 and China ceremony in New York held on the occasion Sudan's appointment to chair the group, Miguel d'Escoto, President of the 63rd session of the United Nations General Assembly, said "Sudan is one of the few countries that can solve the food problem in the world." D'Escoto explained his point, stating that "according to reports by the African Economic Commission, Sudan is one of the leading African countries with regard to economic growth." Sudan's Permanent Envoy to the UN, Abdul-Mahmoud Abdul-Halim, said that that the group's representatives will hold another meeting in New York on Monday to approve the work program for the year. (*Al-Wifaq, Sudan News Agency*)

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.