



SUDAN MORNING NEWS



<http://sudan.usembassy.gov/>

February 11, 2009

Arab states offer safe haven to Al-Bashir

The London-based daily “Al-Hayat” quoted Arab diplomatic sources as saying that they were contemplating offering Sudanese President Omer Al-Bashir refuge, following a likely decision by the International Criminal Court (ICC) to issue an arrest warrant against him. The daily reported that, a “number of Arab countries is working on creating an acceptable offer for Al-Bashir to protect him from judicial prosecution.” Sudanese officials, including presidential assistant Nafie Ali Nafie, have denied the intention of accepting such a plan. (*SudanTribune.com*)

JEM: Darfur talks should not be linked to ICC

Khalil Ibrahim, Chairman of the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM), pledged to halt engagement in the current peace process in Doha if it “were to hinder the ICC probe into war crimes in Darfur.” Ibrahim: “If the talks constitute an escape route for the current regime [Government of National Unity - GONU], JEM will certainly close the dialogue.” (*SudanTribune.com*)

AU and Musa call for “peaceful dialogue”

Arab League envoy Salah Halima delivered an address on behalf of Arab League Secretary-General Amru Musa at the opening session of the Doha talks yesterday. Halima stated that “the Doha meeting represents an opportunity to achieve stability and peace in Darfur.” He lauded efforts by both GONU and JEM to resort to dialogue. Chairperson of the African Union (AU) Commission Jean Ping pointed out that the Doha talks would help the Sudanese reach a “sustainable solution” for the Darfur conflict. He affirmed that the AU would extend its full support to solve the

conflict. Ping stressed the importance of unifying all of the Darfur movements to reach the intended goals. (*Sudan News Agency*)

Darfurian MPs investigate LRA infiltration

Darfurian members of Parliament will investigate allegations that some elements from the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) may have infiltrated into South Darfur State. Abdel Moneim Ambadi, Head of the Darfurian Bloc, said he would personally investigate the situation on the ground in South Darfur. However, Ambadi doubts that “these speculations are true, since it is not easy for LRA elements to penetrate Darfur due to the strict patrolling on the border between the Central African Republic and South Darfur.” (*Sudanese Media Centre, Al-Ahdath, Al-Sahafa*)

Parliament query security violations

The Southern Sudan Legislative Council has started questioning State Governors in the Southern States on security violations that have erupted recently in some of the states. Sulaiman Magour, a member of parliament, told reporters that Parliament has begun its inquiry with governors from both Jonglei State and Western Equatoria because of recent tribal clashes. Magour stressed “the importance of resolving ongoing tribal disputes over pastoral land.” (*Al-Sudani*)

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.