



SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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

March 10, 2009

Sudan receives AU Commission delegation

The Sudanese Government is currently holding consultative talks with a delegation from the Commission of the African Union headed by the Chairman of the Commission, Jean Ping. The meeting comes in the wake of the International Criminal Court's (ICC) decision to indict Sudanese President Omer Al-Bashir. State Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Al-Samani Al-Wasila, told reporters that the meeting "revolves around the Commission's commitment toward resolving the ICC crisis." Al-Wasila continued that "the AU is eager to halt the decision of the ICC against Sudan, which targets the entire African continent and not just Sudan." (*Sudan News Agency, Al-Ahdath*)

Al-Bashir to address Sudanese NGOs

This Wednesday, President Al-Bashir is scheduled to address Sudanese humanitarian aid organizations in an effort to assist a government planned campaign "calling for national support to bridge the humanitarian gap caused by the expulsion of foreign aid organizations." The meeting will be held at Friendship Hall in Khartoum, during which Al-Bashir will receive a document from the national organizations pledging their support. (*Sudan News Agency, Al-Ahdath*)

Evidence of French/Chadian support to JEM

Sudanese government officials have "found new evidence of the France's involvement in supporting the rebel Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) in Darfur." A French-manufactured military vehicle, specifically designed to carry artillery and other military equipment, was apparently left behind by JEM after a recent ambush. Sudanese government officials also said that this was "solid evidence that

France and Chad are both involved in supporting the rebel movement in Darfur." (*Al-Khartoum, Sudanese Media Center, Al-Intibaha*)

GoS/ UN to send an evaluation team to Darfur

The Government of Sudan (GoS) and the United Nations have mutually decided to send a joint team to Darfur to evaluate the immediate basic needs for food, water, and health of the people in Darfur. (*Sudanese Media Center*)

PCP Party Leader released from Prison

- Yesterday, Popular Congress Party leader Hassan Al-Turabi was released from prison after a two-month detainment which came as a result of remarks made by Al-Turabi against President Al-Bashir. In a press statement yesterday, Al-Turabi stated that "nobody is above or immune to the law." The PCP leader also said that "being put in prison will not change my stance," which according to Al-Turabi, "pertains to the principles of justice." (*The Citizen*)

- Abdel Basit Sabdarat, the Sudanese Minister of Justice, said that the government's holding of Al-Turabi in custody was "not the government's priority at the moment." (*Al-Ahdath. Rai-Al-Shaab, et al*)

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.