



# SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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## **Inauguration of first Sudanese aircraft**

Yesterday, Sudanese President Omer Al-Bashir inaugurated an aviation industrial complex known as the Al-Safat Aviation Complex where the first Sudanese-manufactured aircraft (Safat 01) was launched. Present at the inauguration ceremony was Minister of Defense Abdul-Rahim Mohamed Hussein, Minister of Industry Jalal Yousif Al-Degair and a number of other senior officials from the Sudan Armed Forces. Al-Degair said that “Sudan is capable of moving ahead in the field of aircraft manufacturing despite the embargo imposed on the Government by the West.” Work toward the complex began in 2005 with contributions from local and foreign companies. (*Sudan News Agency, Al-Khartoum, et al*)

## **French MP’s asked to put pressure on SLM/AW**

The visiting French delegation of two Members of Parliament (MPs) has been asked by officials from the Sudanese National Assembly “to call on their [French] government to play a positive role in the Darfur issue by putting pressure on Abdul Wahid Nur, faction leader of the Sudan Liberation Movement/Abdul Wahid faction (SLM/AW) in order to join the peace talks.” Sudanese parliamentarians requested that France be instrumental in “asking Chad to stop launching attacks on Sudanese territory” and in seeking that Chad stop “providing logistical support to Darfur rebel movements.” (*Sudan Vision*)

## **PPAA criticizes Umma’s alliance with JEM**

The Parties and Political Association Authority (PPAA) considered an alliance formed by the Umma National Party and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) as “a clear violation,” stating that the deal sabotages national guidelines to consolidate efforts for reaching a peaceful solution for Darfur.

Head of the PPAA Abud Jabir said that “the deal signed between the Umma Party and JEM is not feasible and serves no purpose to peace in Darfur.” “What is needed for Darfur is to consolidate government efforts without insertion of political agendas.” Umma Party Leader Al-Sadig Al-Mahdi confirmed that the party’s initiative for dialogue with the armed movements will continue to engage all the Darfur movements. According to a press statement yesterday by the Umma Party’s Secretary General, the “Party shall pursue its efforts to engage with the armed movements whether the National Congress Party agrees or not.” (*Al-Ayam, Sudan Vision*)

## **MFA: AU’s decision, binding to all member states**

Leaders of 30 African Union (AU) countries, ratifiers of the Rome Statute, issued a resolution at the AU Summit (Sirte, Libya), announcing they would not apprehend any individuals indicted by the International Criminal Court (ICC) including President Al-Bashir. The 30 AU states unanimously agreed except for Botswana, who voted against the resolution, saying it was imposed on member states. Sudanese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Ali Al-Sadiq said the AU decision is binding for all AU member states. (*Al-Khartoum*)

## **Joint team to assess food gap in the South**

The Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, the Government of Southern Sudan and United Nations representatives met in Juba on Saturday to discuss measures for filling the food vacuum in areas of the South affected by the recent outbreaks of tribal violence. The parties agreed to set up joint teams to assess the extent of the food shortage. (*Al-Ayam*)

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.