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Al-Bashir and Mubarak hold talks in Cairo

Sudanese President Omer Al-Bashir and the President of Egypt, Mohamed Hosni Mubarak began a round of talks on Sunday in Cairo with regards to the latest developments on the peace in Sudan. The two officials reviewed the outcome of the ongoing peace talks, progress on the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) as well as various issues of mutual concern. During the talks President Mubarak confirmed his country's willingness to advance the peace process in Darfur and efforts to unify the position of the armed Darfur factions. (*Al-Ayam, Al-Sudani, Sudan News Agency*)

Kenyan VP holds talks with Kiir in Sudan

Sudanese First Vice-President and the President of the Government of South Sudan (GOSS) Salva Kiir Mayardit met with the Kenyan Vice-President Kalonzo Musyoka in order to brief him on the progress of the implementation of the CPA. The meeting touched on the pending issues in the implementation of the CPA, such as the demarcation of borders, the elections, the referendum for the people of Southern Sudan, as well as the outcome of the population census. (*Al-Ayam*)

Kiir: "Unity in its present status is unattractive"

Speaking in his capacity as President of GOSS, Salva Kiir Mayardit hinted that "unity in its present state in Sudan remains unattractive to the South." Kiir continued to argue that "many are out there talking about making unity attractive, something we refuse to acknowledge until the referendum is conducted." He then went on to add that Southerners had the right to determine whether they "would separate or unite without being pressured into doing so." (*Al-Rai-Al-Aam*)

GONU opposes claims challenging its legitimacy

-The Government of National Unity (GONU) is refuting claims by the opposition parties which challenge GONU's "legitimacy" and allege that "the government in Khartoum is currently under-going a constitutional vacuum." Sudanese Minister of Justice challenges the opposing parties "to go to court instead of flooding the press with statements" adding that "if there was truly a constitutional vacuum in Sudan, the CPA partners would be the first to fill it." (*Sudan Vision, Al-Sudani*)

-Speaking in the same context, Sudanese State Minister for Information, Kamal Al-Obeid stated these "remarks by the opposition parties are nothing but an attempt to boycott the upcoming elections." The Minister made these remarks to the press adding that "the upcoming elections were meant for qualified parties and if these parties are not prepared for the elections it cannot be blamed on the constitution or the legal system." (*Al-Sudani*)

Egypt urges Darfur factions to unify their vision

Speaking at a summit in Cairo, Deputy Chief of the Egyptian General Intelligence Directorate, urged Darfur factions to unify their positions for the upcoming peace negotiations. A Spokesperson from the Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM)/Abdul Wahid faction confirmed that his movement "would not participate in the Cairo talks nor any other negotiations, until the international community honors its commitments and the UN-AU Mission in Darfur assumes its responsibility of protecting civilians." (*Al-Ayam, MirayaFM*)

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.