



SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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Mubarak and Obama to discuss Sudan sanctions

Sudan Vision reports that unnamed sources in Cairo disclosed that Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak was planning to confer with U.S President Barack Obama sometime this month in order to discuss the lifting of U.S.-imposed Sudan sanctions as well as issues to advance the peace process in Sudan. Local media interpret the proposed step as coming in the wake of an alleged approach by the U.S. administration to revise its policies towards Sudan.

NCP and DUP form joint partnership committee

Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) leader Mohamed Osman Al-Mirghani, declared that his party and the National Congress Party (NCP) had formed a joint committee agreeing to a partnership to help achieve national consensus on pending issues. Following the meeting held between the two parties last Tuesday, Sudanese Vice-President Ali Osman Mohammed Taha stressed the importance of reaching a comprehensive national consensus for solving all Sudan issues. Taha commended the DUP on its “recognition of and adherence to the unity of rank in Sudan and for ongoing efforts to reach lasting peace in Darfur.” (*Sudan News Agency, Al Raed*)

‘Trouser case’ trial postponed amid protests

A Sudanese court on August 4 postponed the trial of female journalist Lubna Hussein for the second time amid protests by Hussein, who keenly awaited the court’s ruling. More than half a dozen male and female supporters stood in front of the court in solidarity with the journalist. Police tried to disperse the crowd by firing tear gas on them. Hussein, who had recently resigned from her UNMIS job to have her immunity waived, was arrested last month for “indecent” clothing and charged with violating a

dress code under Article 152 of Sudanese law. The judge adjourned the case yesterday in order to obtain further information from the Sudanese Foreign Ministry as to whether Hussein’s resignation would automatically revoke her immunity. “The court should not have delayed the trial ... I am not afraid of flogging ... this is about changing the law,” Hussein told Associated Press (AP). A news report published by the Sudanese official news agency (SUNA) cited that an “authority on community issues” held a forum yesterday to discuss “public appearance” and the women’s dress code. Rabie Abdel-Attie, a leading member of the NCP, stated that “the uproar over the case was clearly politically motivated.” (*Sudantribune.com, Al-Ahdath, The Advocate*)

Sudan accused of seizing assets of expelled NGOs

Three non-governmental organizations (NGOs) expelled by Sudanese authorities last March said that Sudanese authorities had confiscated their assets in the banks as well as equipment. French Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF-France), MSF Holland and OXFAM GB told Reuters that Sudanese authorities had seized about \$5.2 million worth of assets comprising computers, vehicles, stock and equipment in addition to cash in their bank accounts. Sudanese State Minister for Humanitarian Affairs Abdel Baqi Al-Jailani told Reuters that “Sudan has acted within the regulations,” pointing out that the NGOs had signed an agreement stipulating that “their assets would be used by others in case of expulsion.” (*Sudantribune.com*)

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.