



SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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Sudan VP Salva Kiir to visit Egypt

Sudanese First Vice President of the Government of National Unity (GONU) and President of the Government of South Sudan (GOSS), Salva Kiir Mayardit, is scheduled to meet with Egyptian Prime Minister Ahmed Nazeef in Cairo today. The two government officials will discuss issues related to the referendum, the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), means of co-operation, and other issues of mutual interest. (*Al-Akhbar, MirayaFM*)

Taha to meet with AU Security Council in Abuja

-Sudanese Vice-President Ali Osman Mohamed Taha will lead a high-level delegation to participate in the African Union Summit being held in Abuja on Thursday. The Summit participants will review and discuss a report on Darfur submitted by the African Wise Men Committee. The Sudanese delegation will only address the opening session of the Summit and will convey Sudan's comments on the report. (*Khartoum Monitor*)

-Informed sources said the Government of Sudan (GoS) is carefully studying the report and is planning to reject a proposal by the committee to establish "hybrid" courts in Darfur. Sudanese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Moawia Osman Khalide told reporters that the GoS greatly appreciated the role of the African Union and its genuine efforts to find a solution for the crisis in Darfur. (*Al-Akhbar, Al-Wifaq*)

UDP rejects vote quorum for referendum

A newly formed Southern Sudan United Democratic Party (UDP) strongly rejected the vote quorum on the Southern Sudan referendum recently agreed upon

by The National Congress Party (NCP) and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM). Both parties agreed that 66% of the registered voters had to participate in the Referendum polls before the results could be announced. UDP believed that this quorum was difficult to guarantee due to the "myriad of challenges including insecurity and logistics." Tong Ayat Lual, senior party member, criticized the percentage and added "the people of Southern Sudan shall hold SPLM responsible for any hazardous concession that may occur during this time." (*Sudantribune.com*)

Possible famine in western Darfur

West Darfur Minister of Agriculture Bashir Hamad warned of a possible famine due to a reduction in this year's sorghum harvest. Hamad said an insect infestation had damaged this season's crop production. Hamad called on relevant government officials to help contain the crisis. (*Ajras Al-Hurria, The Citizen*)

Customs confiscates diplomats' equipment

Khartoum Airport Customs authorities confiscated gold mining equipment brought in by a group of unnamed diplomats. Brigadier Azhari Ibrahim Osman divulged that the group had been searched after one of the diplomats appeared suspicious to customs authorities. Osman warned that smuggling in gold mining equipment without consent could harm Sudan's economy. The case has been transferred to the Foreign Ministry. (*Al-Wasat Al-Eqtisady*)

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.

