



SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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

December 6, 2009

SPLM calls for GONU police forces to pullout of Abyei

Leading Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) member Edward Lino has called on the Government of National Unity (GONU) to withdraw Sudan national police from the areas surrounding the oil fields in Abyei. Lino maintains that the presence of police forces in Abyei, after the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) border demarcation ruling, is a violation of the Abyei road map agreement and protocol. Lino holds that both the Abyei road map and June 8, 2008, Abyei protocol clearly state that the region's security should be controlled by the Joint Integrated Units (JIUs). Says Lino, "in light of this clear provision, I call upon the central government to immediately consider withdrawal of the national police still in Abyei so that security of the oil companies, their personnel and assets remain under the control of the JIUs." He called on the government to instruct Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) to allow for the free movement of civilians returning back to the area. (*Sudantribune.com*)

Sudan arrests Darfur peacekeeper attackers

Yesterday, three Rwandan peacekeepers from the African Union/United Nations Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) were ambushed and killed by a group of armed men in North Darfur. The attack occurred 2 km away from UNAMID offices located, where a platoon of 20 Rwandan peacekeepers was escorting a water tanker. The governor of North Darfur, Osman Mohamed Yousef Kibir, condemned the attack and announced the arrest of the unnamed perpetrators. Kibir described the attack as "an isolated incident" and stressed the commitment of the Government of Sudan to cooperate with UNAMID forces in Darfur. (*Sudantribune.com, Al-Khartoum, Al-Wifaq*)

Ocampo attempts to hamper Sudan elections

-Sudanese Minister of State for Information and Communication Kamal Al Obeid called a recently submitted report to the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) on Sudan by Chief Prosecutor Louis Moreno-Ocampo of the International Criminal Court (ICC) part of a continuous attempt to hamper the peace process in Darfur as well as Sudan's upcoming elections. (*Al-Khartoum*)

-Moawia Osman Khalid, a Sudanese Foreign Ministry spokesperson, stated that the failure of UNSC members to issue a resolution on the ICC report proved the "lack of consensus" within the council itself. (*Sudan Vision*)

NEC warns against foreign observer activities

Sudan National Elections Commission (NEC) Secretary General Jalal Mohammed Ahmed warns against foreign observers assigned to monitor Sudan's upcoming electoral process, particularly in the case of countries are hostile to Sudan. Ahmed accuses foreign election observers of seeking to cause division among various ethnicities in Sudan as occurred during elections in Zimbabwe, Kenya and Iran. (*Al-Khartoum, Khartoum Monitor*)

Rate of the voter registration reaches 68%

The National Elections Commission (NEC) has stated the percentage of voter registration for the upcoming elections in Sudan to have reached 68% (13,294,060 citizens), as of December 5, 2009. (*Sudan Official News Agency, Al Raed*)

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.