

SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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Sudan's NCP discusses the DUP initiative

The ruling National Congress Party (NCP) is looking into the possibility of re-activating a national consensus initiative on Sudan issues proposed by the leader of the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), Mohammed Osman Al-Mirghani. The initiative was proposed in 2008 and calls for a round table discussion that involves all of Sudan's political parties to achieve political stability in the country. NCP political secretary Ibrahim Ghandour, met with a DUP delegation on Sunday to discuss the initiative. (*Al-Tayar*, *Al-Khartoum*, *Sudantribune.com*)

SLM/AbdelShafi faction to hold talks in Doha

Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM) faction leader Ahmed Abdel Shafi, is travelling to Doha today to meet with Qatari officials to discuss the Darfur peace process. Abdel Shafi indicated that the reason behind his previous rejection to participate in the Doha peace talks was Khartoum's failure to meet the factions demands of providing more protection for Darfuri civilians and improving on humanitarian conditions in the area. Abdel Shafi pointed out that his visit to Doha was to meet with the mediators on a "one-on-one" basis in order to express the movement's standpoint with regards to the Darfur peace process. (*Al-Ayam*, *Sudantribune.com*)

Re-tabling of the Abyei Referendum unlikely

Sudanese National Assembly Deputy Chairman Mohammed Al-Hassan Al-Amin, affirmed that the re-tabling of the endorsed Abyei Referendum before a legislative authority "is unlikely." Last week, Misseriya parliamentary representatives rejected the act and called for an annulment. The Parliament's Deputy Chairman told reporters, however, that all

provisions of the Abyei Referendum are legally in order and are based on the decision made by the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) in The Hague. However, he admits that some of the provisions in the Act "are not in favor of the Misseriya tribe" and that the Messiriya would have to compromise. "The problem in Abyei is in need of a political solution and not a legal one," he argued. (*Al-Ayam*, *Al-Tayar*)

Minnawi asked to remove his troops

South Darfur state officials stated the necessity of having SLM/Minnawi troops withdraw from the Shairiya region of South Darfur to help tribal reconciliation in the area. According to the Darfur officials, the presence of Minnawi's troops posed a threat of peaceful co-existence in the area. (Al-Tayar)

LRA ready to negotiate with GOSS

The Ugandan rebel group, the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) announced that it is ready to negotiate with the Government of Southern Sudan (GOSS) to end its provocation in the region. David Matsanga, a leading member of the LRA told reporters that "the LRA had no intention of fighting with the GOSS" and is prepared to negotiate in the United Nations led talks mediated by former Botswanan President, Joaquim Chisano. (*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.