



SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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Abyei officials dismissed for corruption

Four officials from Abyei Administration have been sacked from their positions for alleged corruption based on a recent presidential decree. The four dismissed officials are Abyei Administration Head Arob Mayak Monytok plus three respective directors from the Abyei Department of Finance, Agriculture, and Infrastructure. Deng Arob Kual has been appointed as the new Head of the Abyei Administration. (*Al-Rai-Al-Aam*)

Tension brewing between Khartoum and Asmara

According to a press report in *Al-Sahafa*, there is growing tension between Khartoum and Asmara over Sudan's position regarding Eritrea's stand-off with Somalia. An informed source told the newspaper that Asmara was angered by Khartoum's position at the recent meetings held by the Inter-governmental Authority for Development (IGAD) and the African Union.

Ghandour: "UN not entitled to monitor elections"

Political Secretary of the Sudanese ruling National Congress Party (NCP), Ibrahim Ghandour, declared that the United Nations "has no right to monitor elections in Sudan." He added that the Election Act has clear stipulations as to which authorities are entitled to monitor the electoral process in Sudan." The remarks came at NCP headquarters yesterday and were a response to a call by Mubarak Al-Fadil, leader of an Umma Party splinter group, who requested UN election observation in Sudan. Ghandour: "The UN's funding and technical support to the National Elections Commission does not entitle it to monitor Sudan's elections." (*Sudan Official News Agency, Sudantribune.com*)

Taha and Minnawi prepare for Doha talks

Sudanese Vice-President Ali Osman Mohamed Taha and Senior Presidential Assistant Mini Arco Minnawi met yesterday to discuss preparations for the upcoming peace negotiations in Doha, Qatar. Following the meeting, Minnawi, told reporters that a number of important issues were discussed, including development in Darfur, the situation of displaced persons, the electoral process, participation of Minnawi's faction in the peace talks and implementation of the Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA). (*Sudan Official News Agency, Al-Rai-Al-Aam*)

SPLM to demonstrate over border demarcation

Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) Deputy Chairperson James Wani Igga disclosed that SPLM intends to demonstrate over the prolonged south-north border demarcation issue. Igga noted that the demonstration [no date given] would be peaceful and aimed at creating awareness in the international community as well as among Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) stakeholders. (*The Citizen*)

Sudan files complaint with the ITU against France

Sudan's National Telecommunication Authority has filed an official complaint against France with the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), in Geneva. The complaint alleges France set up a satellite last month to spy on Darfur. National Telecommunication Authority Director Mustafa Abdelhafiz told reporters that "such an act on the part of France is considered a violation of Sudan's sovereignty." (*Al-Watan*)

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.