



SUDAN MORNING NEWS

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GoSS rejects UN Secretary General's statement

GOSS president Salva Kiir Mayardit strongly rejected a statement made by the United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon, where the UN official called on the international community to work for the unity of Sudan. Kiir stated that it is neither upon the United Nations nor the international Community to decide whether the south will remain united or not, stressing that "it is the Southern Sudanese who will decide in a vote." (*The Citizen, SudanTribune.com, Khartoum Monitor*)

--Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ashraf Jehangir Qazi, told reporters in a press statement that the media had misinterpreted Bani Ki-Moon's remarks. Qazi emphasized that the United Nations gives its full support to implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) and that the UN respects the rights of southern Sudanese to vote in the Referendum on self-determination. (*Al-Akhbar*)

GoS: Obama's threats are "politically motivated"

The Government of Sudan (GoS) strongly rejected a recent response by U.S. President Barack Obama [February 1 response to an Enough Project video question posted on YouTube and White House website] in which he indicated that the U.S. Administration would put additional pressure on Sudan if it did not "respond to the U.S. push for securing peace in Darfur." Minister of State for Humanitarian Affairs Abdelbagi Al-Jailani described Obama's "threats" as "politically motivated strategies," unrelated to the current situation on the ground. Spokesperson for the Sudanese Foreign Ministry (MFA) Moawia Osman Khalid accused the U.S. Administration of seeking failure in the Doha peace negotiations on Darfur. The MFA Spokesperson stated that both the U.S. Administration and the Save Darfur Coalition are fuelling the conflict in Darfur through their "hidden agendas." (*Al-Ahdath, Al-Watan*)

Kiir meets with Umma and Communist Party

National Umma Party leader Al-Sadig Al-Mahdi and Secretary General of the Sudanese Communist Party Mohammed Ibrahim Nugud met in Juba with Salva Kiir Mayardit, Vice-President of the Government of National Unity (GONU) and President of the Government of Southern Sudan, in his capacity as Chairperson of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) to discuss Sudan's electoral process. The party leaders demanded that Sudanese President Omar Al-Bashir suspend certain laws under discussion that may hinder the democratic process in Sudan. (*MirayaFM, Al-Akhbar*)

Arab League to hold meeting of envoys in Darfur

The Arab League will meet on February 4 to discuss arrangements for holding a February 13 meeting of Arab envoys in Darfur. The purpose of the meeting is to enable Arab envoys to become acquainted with the situation in Darfur. (*Sudan News Agency*)

Sudanese professor challenges Bashir's candidacy

A retired Sudanese professor Mu'tasim Abdallah, submitted a written memorandum to the National Elections Commission (NEC) refuting the presidential candidacy of Al-Bashir. Professor Abdallah stressed that Al-Bashir's current status as an individual indicted by the International Criminal Court renders him ineligible to run in Sudan's elections. Abdallah maintains that Al-Bashir's indictment by the ICC could affect the country's reputation and status. This is the first known challenge of its kind made against the Sudanese head of state whose ruling National Congress Party (NCP). (*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.