

Sudan Domestic Media, December 27, 2010 (covering December 20 to December 26, 2010)

By Kristen Zbikowski, MIGS Reporter for Sudan

**State-Owned Media**

**December 20**

**(Republic of Sudan Radio, Omdurman, in Arabic 0400 GMT 20 Dec 10)**

- Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Libyan leader Mu'ammara Qadhafi will meet at a tripartite summit in Khartoum on December 21. The summit will address issues that concern the three countries.
- President Omar al-Bashir and Mauritanian President Mohamed Ould Abdelaziz will meet today at Friendship Hall in Khartoum. The two will discuss several issues and joint projects. The president of Mauritania arrived in Sudan on December 19 in the company of a high-ranking delegation. Ali Karti, Sudan's foreign affairs minister, told the radio that the visit reflects the improved ties between Sudan and Mauritania and comes at a critical period for Sudan. He added that several economic agreements would be signed between the two countries during the visit.
- A mini-summit of the directors of the Committee of Intelligence and Security Services of Africa (CISSA) will start in Khartoum today. The summit will cover the situation in Somalia and President Omar al-Bashir will address the opening session. Gen Hanafi Abdallah, the representative of the Sudanese Intelligence and Security Service in the higher preparatory committee of the summit, held a press conference at Friendship Hall in Khartoum on December 19 and said that the hosting of the summit demonstrates Sudan's regional and continental role vis-à-vis its African brothers and its support for national decisions regarding the interests of Africans.
- Sudanese Vice President Ali Uthman Muhammad Taha lauded the initial generation that achieved independence for Sudan, saying that their contributions and sacrifices spread throughout the country to expel the colonialist. In a December 19 address to the Khartoum Legislative Council commemorating the declaration of independence from inside parliament, Taha said that the struggle against the colonialist developed until independence was achieved. He added that Sudan could overcome any challenge regardless of the difficulties.
- On December 19, the executive programme on cooperation in the communication field between Sudan and Chad was signed at the Ministry of Information. Dr. Kamal Ubayd, Sudan's minister of information, signed on behalf of Sudan and Payimi Kalzeube, Chad's communication minister, signed on behalf of Chad. Dr. Kamal Ubayd said that Sudan was determined to follow up on implementing the programme by way of a joint mechanism between Sudan and Chad and noted that

the people of both countries stood to benefit from the joint development projects. Payimi Kalzeube pointed out that the agreement was important in furthering communication between Sudan and Chad.

**(Republic of Sudan Radio, Omdurman, in Arabic 1300 GMT 20 Dec 10)**

- President Omar al-Bashir called on African nations to continue to cooperate and coordinate in confronting various threats and challenges. In an address at the opening of the session of the mini-summit on the security situation in Somalia at Friendship Hall, al-Bashir hailed the role of the CISSA, which was responsible for organizing the mini-summit. President al-Bashir discussed Sudan's willingness to realize regional and continental peace and expressed the country's interest in spreading peace and ending conflict that would positively affect African nations' security and promote good neighborly behavior. He said that despite the challenges Sudan faces, it will not forsake efforts to attain peace and finalize the peace process with its partners. He also noted that attention is called for with regard to the security situation in Somalia. He said that realizing peace in Somalia would positively impact peace and security in the Horn of Africa and asked for increased African efforts through the CISSA in order to ameliorate Africa's situation and bring peace and stability to Somalia.

**(Sudan TV, Omdurman, in Arabic 1500 GMT 20 Dec 10)**

- President Omar al-Bashir received a verbal message from Jacob Zuma, the president of South Africa, expressing support for Sudan and its citizens during this challenging period. Nkoana Mashabane, South Africa's foreign affairs minister, delivered the message to President al-Bashir, saying President Zuma had confidence in al-Bashir and South Sudanese President Salva Kiir Mayardit and their ability to overcome this critical period in Sudan. Zuma said that peace and stability would be maintained. President al-Bashir told the South African envoy that Sudan was keen to respect the choice made by southerners and would continue to work toward sustainable peace between the north and the south if the referendum were to result in secession.
- President Omar al-Bashir and Mauritanian President Mohamed Ould Abdelaziz chaired Sudanese-Mauritanian talks at Friendship Hall in Khartoum. Both countries noted the importance of promoting bilateral relations. President Mohamed Ould Abdelaziz also indicated Mauritania's rejection of so-called International Criminal Court (ICC) conspiracies against Sudan.

**December 21**

**(Sudan TV, Omdurman, in Arabic 0000 GMT 21 Dec 10)**

- Ahmad Abu-al-Ghayt, Egypt's foreign minister, said that the tripartite summit on Sudan noted satisfaction and appreciation for the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) partners' commitment to working together to prepare for the

South Sudan referendum in an environment of mutual trust. The summit expressed complete support for such efforts and the need to continue in this fashion. It also expressed hope that an agreement would be reached regarding disputed issues and noted that the CPA partners were committed to reaching agreement on many of the issues.

**(Republic of Sudan Radio, Omdurman, in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Dec 10)**

- Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak were received at Khartoum Airport by Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir. The visiting presidents will participate in the tripartite summit with President al-Bashir to go over the situation in Sudan. The summit will take place this evening at the Guest House and will include the attendance of Sudanese Vice President and President of Southern Sudan Salva Kiir Mayardit. It will focus on developments in the country and issues that concern the summit participants.

**(Republic of Sudan Radio, Omdurman, in Arabic 1400 GMT 21 Dec 10)**

- According to Sudan Radio, at a quartet summit, Egyptian, Libyan and Mauritanian leaders urged North and South Sudan to create robust ties during the period following the referendum. A Southern Sudan referendum is scheduled on January 9, 2011 to determine whether the south will secede or remain part of the country. President Muhammad Husni Mubarak of Egypt, President Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi of Libya, President Mohamed Ould Abdelaziz of Mauritania, Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir and First Vice President of Sudan and President of the Government of South Sudan Salva Kiir Mayardit attended the summit. The leaders issued a joint statement calling for a "peaceful, calm, transparent and credible environment that will reflect the will of southern Sudan people" and indicated that they would respect "the will of southern Sudanese, whatever the outcome". They added that they hoped the referendum results would positively impact Sudan's future and emphasized the importance of working on mutual trust between the National Congress Party (NCP) and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM), the CPA partners. They also said that regional leaders would make efforts to facilitate dialogue between the CPA partners to help them agree on disputed issues and this would in turn pave the way for a conducive referendum environment. The leaders noted that they completely support efforts at the regional and international levels to end the stalemate between the NCP and the SPLM.

**(Sudan TV, Omdurman, in Arabic 1500 GMT 21 Dec 10)**

- The quartet mini-summit in Khartoum, which was attended by President Omar al-Bashir, Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi and Mauritanian President Mohamed Ould Abdelaziz and First Vice President Salva Kiir Mayardit, came to an end. The final communiqué of the summit underscored the importance of supporting mutual trust between the

CPA partners and facilitating dialogue between them with the aim of resolving disputed issues. The summit emphasized support for regional and international efforts to bring the partners together and expressed hope that they would reach agreement on remaining issues. The summit appreciated the commitment and assurances from the partners that the referendum would take place on time. It also called on them to cooperate in conducting the referendum and noted their confidence in the partners' keenness on joint efforts in order to make the referendum a success.

## **December 24**

**(Sudan TV, Omdurman, in Arabic 1500 GMT 24 Dec 10)**

- Following Friday prayers at Khartoum State mosques, Muslims staged a rally condemning the SPLM's violation of the CPA. The protesters called on the SPLM to end its practices regarding the implementation of Islamic Shari'ah and warned the party and its leaders to stop messing around with Sudan's hallmark. They condemned the northern sector of the SPLM for calling for a secular constitution following the referendum and urged political groups and civil society to support the implementation of Islamic Shari'ah. The protestors added that they would defend the country and the Islamic project by all means.
- The NCP affirmed that it completely rejects the dual citizenship that the SPLM is calling for. Prof Ibrahim Ghandur, the NCP's political secretary, told a symposium on border demarcation, Abyei and citizenship that only the government could give citizenship as it is a sovereign matter to be decided by the government.

## **December 25**

**(Republic of Sudan Radio, Omdurman, in Arabic 0400 GMT 25 Dec 10)**

- On December 28, President Omar al-Bashir will be present for the nineteenth anniversary of the National Martyrs celebrations in Al-Jazirah State. During his visit, he will inaugurate several important development projects in the Greater Madani, Southern Al-Jazirah and Al-Manaqil localities. The president will also speak at a mass rally in the Martyrs Town in eastern Madani. The Council of Ministers of the Al-Jazirah state government, headed by state governor Prof Al-Zubayr Bashir Taha, met yesterday to review preparations. The Council noted the importance of the visit as it would embody Al-Jazirah residents' support for upcoming policies and programs.
- At a press conference in Moscow, Russia, Ali Karti, Sudan's minister of foreign affairs, unveiled an imminent agreement between the CPA partners to settle post-referendum issues. He noted the partners' commitment to fulfilling the final CPA clauses and to holding a free and transparent referendum. Karti also said that he had talked to his Russian counterpart about the establishment of a high-level consultation committee as well as a Russian-Sudanese business council to develop

economic and trade relations between Russia and Sudan. Russia's foreign minister announced his country's support for Sudanese efforts to resolve the Darfur issue and expressed confidence in Sudan's commitment to the South Sudan referendum outcome.

## **December 26**

### **(Republic of Sudan Radio, Omdurman, in Arabic 0400 GMT 26 Dec 10)**

- President Omar al-Bashir will visit Al-Jazirah State on December 28 to inaugurate several infrastructure and development projects. He will also speak at a number of mass rallies. Prof Al-Zubayr Bashir Taha, the governor of Al-Jazirah state, told the radio that the president will inaugurate Wad Madani Hospital for Heart Diseases and Surgery, launch projects for bringing light to rural villages, in addition to several martyrs' families projects and other development initiatives.
- Dr. Nafi Ali Nafi, the presidential assistant and NCP deputy chairman for party affairs, affirmed that the unity and economy of the north will not be disturbed if the referendum results in secession. He said that the north has more oil than the south and noted that there are numerous other resources in the north. Dr. Nafi said in his December 25 address during the closing session of the meeting of the secretary generals of organizations in the states, held at Burj al-Fatih in Khartoum, that President al-Bashir's government had made efforts to develop and interact with the south, but that was not what the SPLM wanted. Dr. Nafi said the SPLM will be primarily responsible for southern secession if it occurs because the party violated the CPA, which stipulates that both parties should promote the unity option. Instead of calling for unity, he said, the SPLM advocated for secession. Dr. Nafi added that he believes the referendum will result in secession of the south and refuted allegations that the NCP has not done enough to achieve unity for Sudan. He said that without the NCP, Sudan would have already disintegrated and said that the government alone was responsible for attempting to resolve the issue of the south, approving federalism and realizing peace. He also noted that the majority of Sudan's crises and turning points indicate that the country is headed in the right direction.
- An NCP delegation led by Dak Dob Bishop, the minister of labor, joined Upper Nile State residents in their Christmas celebrations. Another delegation led by Angelo Atak, state minister in the Ministry of Animal Resources, joined Christians in Wau, the capital of Western Bahr al-Ghazal State, to celebrate Christmas. Delegations from the Sudanese government and Khartoum State's government joined Christians in celebrating in Khartoum State earlier on. Eng Siddiq Muhammad Ali Al-Shaykh, Khartoum State's governor, said that joining the Christians in celebrating Christmas was in the spirit of religious tolerance. He assured Christians in South Sudan that the government had taken all necessary precautions to maintain peace and security in Sudan.