

Sudan Domestic Media, July 26, 2010 (covering July 19 to July 25, 2010)

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## **State-Owned Media**

### **July 20**

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

- President Omar al-Bashir met with Muhammad Uthman al-Mirghani, the leader of the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) yesterday evening. They discussed recent developments in Darfur and efforts in Doha to bring security to the region as well as ongoing consultations between the national forces on important matters. Muhammad Uthman al-Mirghani proposed an initiative for national consensus including consultation between the leaders of political forces on the Darfur crisis, strengthening the unity of Sudan and hostile foreign forces targeting the country. He also noted the both parties agreed to do away with comments that would have an effect on the two parties and Sudan's unity.

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

- President Omar al-Bashir met with Al-Imam Al-Sadiq Al-Mahdi, the leader of National Ummah Party. The two men discussed the forum of political forces to be held on July 24. The forum will explore ways of holding a free and fair referendum and achieving voluntary unity. Imam Sadiq al-Mahdi indicated that he was pleased with the president's invitation and expressed hope that other actors would participate in the forum because Sudan's problems called for them to see past their differences. He added that the party's representatives would come to the forum with a vision for holding a free and fair referendum so as to avoid a return to war.

### **July 21**

#### **(Republic of Sudan Radio, Omdurman, in Arabic 0400 GMT 21 Jul 10)**

- President Omar al-Bashir will depart for Chad this evening to attend the 12th Community of Sahel-Saharan States summit, which commences on July 22. The summit will address security issues as well as political issues including Sudan's peace process and Sudan and Chad's efforts to normalize relations and stabilize the region. Developments in Somalia will also be discussed and views will be exchanged on the evolution of the regional body. President al-Bashir will also meet with several individuals to discuss bilateral relations. A radio correspondent in the capital indicated that the meeting of foreign affairs ministers concluded

yesterday and resolutions and a final communiqué were released. The correspondent added that the most important resolution was the condemnation of the political actions by the so-called International Criminal Court (ICC) against Sudan and noted a statement by the secretary-general of the Community of Sahel-Saharan States Muhammad al-Madani al-Azhari indicating that the ICC's approach is not serving peace in Darfur and that the regional body rejects the move. The correspondent also reported that the regional body has called for the Security Council to end the ICC initiative and allow the Doha peace process to resolve the situation in Darfur. Ali Karti, the minister of foreign affairs, told Sudan radio that Sudan's participation in the meeting was highly valued, noting that it was one of the regional body's founders. Karti also praised the position of the Community of Sahel-Saharan States vis-à-vis Sudan. Sudan announced that it would host the next foreign affairs ministers' meeting from Community of Sahel-Saharan States in February or March 2011.

**(Republic of Sudan Radio, Omdurman, in Arabic 1300 GMT 21 Jul 10)**

- President Omar al-Bashir held a meeting today with Vice Presidents Gen Salva Kiir Mayardit and Ali Uthman Muhammad Taha. According to a press statement, the meeting discussed the security situation in Darfur, including its improvement and the voluntary return of refugees in parts of Darfur. The president also noted the stable security situation at border zones. First Vice President Gen Salva Kiir Mayardit confirmed the stability of the situation in Southern Sudan. Vice President Ali Uthman Muhammad Taha discussed the recommendations of the Demarcation States Forum held in Awil town in Northern Bahr-al-Ghazal and the meeting directed the central government, the government of Southern Sudan and other concerned states to follow up on the implementation of the Demarcation States Forum recommendations. The meeting also confirmed the invitation of political actors and national figures to the July 24 consultative meeting on the referendum. The meeting also addressed the arrangement of post-referendum talks. The National Congress Party (NCP) and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) signed an agreement on the outcome of their meeting in Juba.

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

- President Omar al-Bashir arrived in Chad for the 12th Community of Sahel-Saharan States summit, to be held in the capital. President al-Bashir was received at the airport by Chadian President Idriss Deby and a number of Chadian officials.

**July 22**

**(Suna news agency website, Khartoum, in Arabic 22 Jul 10)**

- Muhammad Uthman al-Mirghani, chairman of the DUP, confirmed that he will attend the July 24 consultative meeting for political powers. President Omar al-Bahir called for the meeting. After meeting with Salva Kiir Mayardit, vice

president and leader of the SPLM, al-Mirghani issued the following statement: "We informed the leader of the movement [SPLM] on the importance of Sudan unity as people and territory and the need to confront foreign interference particularly the ICC". He stressed the importance of participation in the upcoming meeting in terms of resolving Sudanese issues and he expressed hope that the meeting would yield results.

**(Source: Sudan TV, Omdurman, in Arabic 1500 GMT 22 Jul 10)**

- The government of Sudan and the Liberty and Justice Movement (LJM) signed an appendix agreement to the Darfur cease-fire deal in Doha today in the presence of Qatari and international mediators. The agreement was signed during a Conflict Resolution Committee meeting established to assess Doha peace talk progress. Qatari Minister for Foreign Affairs Ahmad Bin Abdallah Mahmud denied reports that the talks had been postponed and confirmed that negotiations will continue. The appendix agreement was signed by Dr. Amin Hasan Umar, the head of Sudan's delegation, and Dr. Al-Tijani Al-Sisis, the leader of the LJM.

**(Sudan TV, Omdurman, in Arabic 1900 GMT 22 Jul 10)**

- Dr. Luka Biong, the minister of cabinet affairs, met with Nicholas Kay, the United Kingdom ambassador to Khartoum, to discuss issues related to the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA). Dr. Luka noted that the meeting also dealt with the importance of transparency in the upcoming referendum and addressed ways to increase investment between Sudan and the UK. Kay affirmed that the UK would continue supporting Sudan in the humanitarian and development fields.

**July 23**

**(Sudan TV, Omdurman, in Arabic 1030 GMT 23 Jul 10)**

- The July 23 sermon from Shaykh Jalal al-Din al-Murad was broadcast live on Sudan TV from the Al-Shahid Mosque in Khartoum. The first sermon addressed religious issues and the second dealt with the upcoming referendum. According to the preacher, "[t]he best thing I have heard was from one of my brothers from Southern Sudan who said that Sudan is like one body: if one part secedes, the rest of the body dies. Such body then becomes a virus that infects the whole world". He added that the Sudanese are one people and can overcome the referendum through public pressure, stating that "public pressure is stronger than any referendum".

**July 24**

**(Republic of Sudan Radio, Omdurman, in Arabic 0400 GMT 24 Jul 10)**

- Upon his return from Chad after attending the Community of Sahel-Saharan states summit, President Omar al-Bashir held a meeting with First Vice-President Gen Salva Kiir Mayardit and Vice-President Ali Uthman Muhammad Taha. Dr. Kamal Ubayd, the minister of information, indicated that the president was briefed on preparations for the upcoming consultative meeting on Southern Sudan's post-referendum arrangements and attaining a national consensus. He added that it was concluded that the July 24 meeting should be postponed so that political forces could prepare for the meeting.

## **July 25**

### **(Suna news agency website, Khartoum, in English 25 Jul 10)**

- Sudan's Foreign Ministry summoned UNICEF's acting Resident Representative to Sudan and informed him of the country's total rejection of the agreement the organization made with the JEM on July 22 in Geneva. The Foreign Ministry views the agreement as invalid and in violation of international laws and conventions, particularly because the agreement was made with a movement that has been outlawed. Sudan asked UNICEF to submit an explanation in writing, withdraw from the agreement, adhere to international laws and respect national sovereignty. Mu'awiya Uthman Khalid, spokesman for the Foreign Ministry, issued a statement saying that the JEM does not have control over any territory and its members are being pursued by the Sudanese Armed Forces. Khalid rejected the JEM's claim that the agreement sought to provide care for children, noting that the JEM recruits children and involves them in armed conflicts. He affirmed the government's rejection of child recruitment.