

Sudan Domestic Media, July 12, 2010 (covering July 5 to July 11, 2010)

By Kristen Zbikowski, MIGS Reporter for Sudan

## **State-Owned Media**

### **July 5**

#### **(Republic of Sudan Radio, Omdurman, in English, 1300 GMT 5 Jul 10)**

- Ali Ahmad Karti, Minister of Foreign Affairs, has pressed the European Union (EU) to hold true to its pledges toward Sudan's peace process, development and stability, particularly countries that made their pledges through the Oslo donors' conference. In a meeting with Carlo de Felippi, the EU Special Representative for Sudan, Karti emphasized that the failure by EU countries to honour their pledges toward the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) has had a negative impact on the peace process and support for unity. He added that dialogue between Sudan and the EU should not be founded on the expulsion of NGOs and activists and noted Sudan's readiness to improve dialogue with the EU.

### **July 6**

#### **(Suna news agency website, Khartoum, in Arabic 6 Jul 10)**

- Chairmen and members of the Referendum Commission were sworn in on July 6 at the Republic Palace before President Omar al-Bashir. In his address, President al-Bashir noted that the government would support the commission and hoped that the referendum would result in unity for Sudan. He also commented that efforts were being made to speed up the border demarcation process to ensure that border demarcation would be completed before the referendum and added that the self-determination of South Sudan was enshrined in the CPA, the Khartoum Peace Agreement and the Conference on National Issues.

### **July 7**

#### **(Republic of Sudan Radio, Omdurman, in Arabic, 0400 GMT 7 Jul 10)**

- In accordance with an agreement on extradition between Sudan and Chad, a number of criminals have been exchanged between the two countries over the past two days. According to the spokesman for the Sudanese Armed Forces, the criminals who were exchanged with Chad consisted of a group of individuals conducting looting and robbery in Southern Kurdufan State.

#### **(Republic of Sudan Radio, Omdurman, in Arabic, 0400 GMT 7 Jul 10)**

- Dr. Ghazi Salah-al-Din, the official in charge of the Darfur file, indicated that he would be leaving for Doha before July 15 to work on peace negotiations. He is also set to table a report today in parliament on the status of the Doha talks.

**(Sudan TV, Omdurman, in Arabic, 1300 GMT 7 Jul 10)**

- Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir reaffirmed his government's commitment to respect freedom of the press and journalism and called on the political class and media to air messages promoting unity for Sudan. This statement came after a meeting with the minister of information about a plan to support unity through the media, particularly through national radio and television. The minister of information, Dr. Kamal Ubayd, added that the suspension of Al-Intibaha newspaper was the result of its violation of the constitution "by championing hatred, tribalism and racism, plus also questioning some aspects of the country's foreign policy." The meeting stressed that journalists should refrain from undermining the constitution. With respect to freedom of the press, the president ordered investigations into the alleged return of pre-censorship of newspapers as this relates to the law and the constitution.

**(Sudan Vision website, Khartoum, in English 7 Jul 10)**

- According to learned sources, a June 28 meeting took place between the Umma Party and a delegation from the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) in Cairo. The meeting centered on ways to bring together all internal opposition parties and armed movements with the ultimate goal of overthrowing the government. Sources indicated that elements of this group of actors would resort to demonstrations and civil disobedience while the armed movements, particularly JEM, would be "tasked with military operations advancing from outside toward the capital to topple the regime by force." It was agreed that another meeting would be held to determine tangible modes of action. A source called on Sudan's neighbors to "play their role to prevent weaving conspiracies that threaten regional security and stability" and added that various sectors are aware of and prepared to deter threats to national stability.

**July 8**

**(Sudan TV, Omdurman, in Arabic, 1500 GMT 8 Jul 10)**

- President Omar al-Bashir issued presidential decree No. 29-2010 appointing presidential advisers in accordance with the 2005 transitional constitution of Sudan.

**July 9**

**(Republic of Sudan Radio, Omdurman, in Arabic, 1000 GMT 9 Jul 10)**

- Ali Ahmad Karti, Sudan's Foreign Affairs Minister, emphasized the importance for the U.S. of removing Sudan from the list of states that sponsor terrorism and removing economic sanctions in order to begin to improve relations between the two countries. He added that relations will not be normalized as long as "accusations against Sudan" stand and called the U.S. sanctions "unfair." He also

commented that the U.S. now realized that neither the Sudanese government nor any Sudanese official had ever supported terrorism.

**(Sudan TV, Omdurman, in Arabic, 1030 GMT 9 Jul 10)**

- A July 9 sermon that was broadcast live on Sudan TV from the Al-Shahid Mosque in Khartoum discussed religious matters, Palestinian issues and ties between Sudan and the U.S. Shaykh Abd-al-Jalil Nazir Al-Karuri asked the faithful to support the Palestinians because their land is occupied and noted that they have been gaining international support, especially since the recent flotilla aid incident. He also urged the U.S. to start a new chapter with Sudan, particularly in light of the new embassy that has opened in Khartoum, and asked the U.S. to support Sudanese unity rather than secession.

**(Republic of Sudan Radio, Omdurman, in Arabic, 1300 GMT 9 Jul 10)**

- According to witnesses, some parts of Khartoum State experienced a minor earthquake on July 9, but no official information was available on the incident.
- President Omar al-Bashir received a message from Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi inviting him to attend three summits in Libya later this year.

**July 10**

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

- The first session on the negotiations of post-referendum arrangements was held at Friendship Hall in Khartoum between the National Congress Party (NCP) and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM). The vice president of Sudan, the vice president of South Sudan and numerous political parties, civil society groups and regional and international organizations attended the session's negotiations, which are within the framework of implementing the CPA and the referendum law.