Sudan Domestic Media, October 11, 2010 (covering October 4 to October 10, 2010)

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State-Owned Media

October 4

(Republic of Sudan Radio, Omdurman, in Arabic 0400 GMT 4 Oct 10)

- Ali Uthman Muhammad Taha, Sudan's vice-president, planned to hold a press
 conference this afternoon at the council of ministers' headquarters. He was
 expected to review the current political situations, the outcome of his most recent
 visit to New York and the role of Sudan's delegation in the UN General Assembly
 meetings.
- President Omar al-Bashir reaffirmed his commitment to protecting the rights of non-Muslims in Sudan under Shari'ah, which respects other religions. In his address to the first meeting of the political parties' youth in Khartoum on October 3, the president noted the government's support of youth initiatives and projects, saying they represented the future. He praised the role of youth in uniting and stabilizing the country and added that the government is committed to dialogue in implementing the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) and all of its protocols.
- Ahmad Bin-Abdallah Al Mahmud, Qatar's minister of state in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, went over plans to continue peace talks between the government and the Liberation and Justice Movement (LJM) in Doha with Djibril Bassole, the joint AU-UN mediator. Both sides discussed ways of completing the final document for peace in Darfur. The mediators agreed to allow the parties to carry on with negotiations on pending issues.

(Republic of Sudan Radio, Omdurman, in Arabic 1000 GMT 4 Oct 10)

The government of Western Darfur State and the Liberals and Reforms
Movement (LRM) signed a goodwill agreement during the opening session of
negotiations taking place in Junaynah. The joint UN-AU mediator, Djibril
Bassole, monitored the agreement, which included provisions paving the way for
negotiations and aiming ultimately to achieve peace in the state.

(Republic of Sudan Radio, Omdurman, in Arabic 1300 GMT 4 Oct 10)

• First Vice-President Ali Uthman Muhammad Taha commented that January will be an important time for the future of Sudan. He added that holding the referendum would signify the end of the CPA. The vice-president stated that Sudan was stable following the signing of the CPA, the establishment of federal

and South Sudan institutions and the holding of the elections. He said that the referendum would serve the interests of both the south and Sudan as a whole and noted several issues that would bolster development, among them Abyei and the border issues, which are currently being discussed in Addis Ababa. He also indicated his commitment to promoting Sudanese unity and remarked that relations between the north and south should be strengthened even if the referendum results in secession.

October 5

(Republic of Sudan Radio, Omdurman, in Arabic 0400 GMT 5 Oct 10)

- The joint mediation team for peace negotiations in Darfur is set to hold a meeting today in Doha with the parties to the negotiation. The joint mediation team plans to discuss the time for unveiling the Darfur Peace Document and aims to establish a new timetable for dealing with negotiation files.
- On October 5, President Omar al-Bashir launched a national campaign to revive
 the endowment tradition in Khartoum. Numerous officials and civil society
 groups participated in the event. Dr. Al-Tayyib Mukhtar, the secretary-general of
 the National Endowment Trust, noted that the campaign is part of the trust's
 strategy of developing and using endowments both within and outside of the
 country.

October 6

(Republic of Sudan Radio, Omdurman, in Arabic 0400 GMT 6 Oct 10)

- President Omar al-Bashir sent a letter to Algerian President Abdelaziz Bouteflika, to be delivered by Sudan's National Defence Minister Maj-Gen Eng Abd-al-Rahim Muhammad Husayn, who arrived in Algeria. In an Algerian press release, the defence minister stated that his visit is part of broader continuous consultations between Sudan and Algeria. He noted that discussions with Algerian officials would deal with the current situation in Sudan, the referendum process and issues related to Darfur. Relations between the two countries would also be addressed.
- Negotiations between the Sudanese government and the LJM were set to begin in Doha and cover five key issues. Dr. Umar Adam Rahma, the government delegation's spokesman, said that the work of all of the committees should be finished by October 17. A general meeting for the two parties was held on October 5 and was chaired by the joint AU-UN mediator Djibril Bassole and Qatari mediator Ahmad Bin-Abdallah Al Mahmud. Dr. Amin Hasan Umar, head of the Sudanese government delegation, and Tijani Sisi, chairman of LJM, also attended the negotiation proceedings. The parties agreed at the meeting on where talks should resume following the last round of negotiations.
- Permanent envoys are set to meet in Tripoli today to begin preparations for the Arab-African Summit scheduled for October 9 and 10 in Libya. According to

Sudan's Ambassador to Ethiopia, the envoy's meeting aims to prepare for the summit and its agenda. He added that a special meeting for African and Arab states' foreign ministers would begin on October 7. This would be followed by a heads of states meeting.

October 7

(Republic of Sudan Radio, Omdurman, in Arabic 0400 GMT 7 Oct 10)

• A UN Security Council delegation met vesterday with the South Sudan government headed by Gen Salva Kiir Mayardit, first vice-president of Sudan and president of South Sudan. Also present was the speaker of the South Sudan Legislative Assembly. The delegation noted that the visit to Juba was meant to reinforce the Security Council's commitment to the CPA, to holding the South Sudan referendum on time and to conducting the popular consultations in Blue Nile and Southern Kurdufan. The visit also aimed to assess the current situation on the ground and ascertain the South Sudanese government's ability to conduct the referendum. The Security Council stressed the international community's commitment to recognizing the referendum results and providing the support required to make the referendum successful. Gen Salva Kiir briefed members of the Security Council on the implementation of the CPA and remaining issues as well as the security situation in Southern Sudan. Members of the government of South Sudan also responded to Security Council questions regarding their readiness to hold the referendum and obstacles to the CPA's implementation. This morning the Security Council team will visit Al-Rajaf in South Sudan, the site of the largest camp for training police forces that are slated to safeguard the referendum.

(Sudan TV, Omdurman, in Arabic 1500 GMT 7 Oct 10)

• Darfur peace negotiations between the government and the LJM continued in Doha with the inclusion of the joint Arab-African mediation committee. Dr. Umar Adam Rahma, the official spokesman for the government delegation in the Doha talks, told the television station that progress had been made in the areas of IDPs and refugees. He noted that talks relating to the participation of rebels in the government and justice and reconciliation issues are ongoing. He also stated that talks regarding security arrangements will continue, but that an agreement on this issue was almost reached between the two parties. He added that talks on other issues are set to resume on October 8.

October 8

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

• President Omar al-Bashir left for Libya to lead the Sudanese delegation in the extraordinary Arab-African Summit in Sirte, which is scheduled for October 9 and 10.

October 9

(Sudan TV, Omdurman, in Arabic 1500 GMT 9 Oct 10)

• Ahmad Ibrahim al-Tahir, Sudan's speaker of the National Legislative Assembly, reiterated that the government will not cooperate with the "so-called" International Criminal Court (ICC). He stated that the ICC allegations were shown to be weak by the Sudanese people's support for President al-Bashir. In an address to a demonstration organized by the Popular Organization for Support of Unity, he said that the government pledged to maintain peace and support unity. The demonstration called for an end to using the "so-called" ICC as a colonial tool against Third World countries. Demonstrators submitted a memo rejecting any violation of Sudanese sovereignty to the UN office in Khartoum.

October 10

(Republic of Sudan Radio, Omdurman, in Arabic 1200 GMT 10 Oct 10)

• Dr. Lam Akol, chairman of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-Democratic Change (SPLM-DC), announced that he had signed an agreement with Lt-Gen Salva Kiir Mayardit, president of the government of South Sudan, covering a number of issues including the cessation of harassment of his party in the south. Dr. Akol stated in a news conference at Khartoum Airport that numerous issues would be addressed during the south-south dialogue conference in Juba on October 13. Dr. Akol emphasized the importance of the conference in the context of southern administrative, political and security challenges as well as the upcoming referendum.

(Sudan TV, Omdurman, in Arabic 1500 GMT 10 Oct 10)

- The extraordinary Arab-African Summit sessions began in Sirte, Libya, and included numerous African and Arab leaders. During the opening session, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak of Egypt handed the summit presidency over to Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi of Libya. The summit noted its support for unity, security and stability in Sudan and called for Arab-African coordination and partnership in tackling the challenges facing Arabs and Africans around the world. The summit also highlighted the importance of eliminating sources of conflict and tension in the Arab and African world and called for greater economic cooperation in the coming period.
- Several African and Arab leaders at the Arab-African Summit stressed the dangers of the secession of South Sudan. They stated that secession would be a dangerous split in the map of Africa and warned that it would jeopardize security

and humanitarian situations in Africa and the Arab world. Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi warned that the secession of South Sudan would be "contagious" and Chadian President Idriss Deby called for cooperation and joint efforts to support Sudan in achieving peace and stability.