



UNMIS

**Office of the Spokesperson****UNMIS NEWS BULLETIN\****25 January 2007****UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon meets with GNU delegation in New York***

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon met on 23 January at UN Headquarters in New York with a delegation of the Government of National Unity of Sudan headed by Mutrif Siddig, Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sudan. During the meeting, the Secretary-General raised concern about developments in Darfur over the last few days, including aerial bombardments the Government of Sudan has conducted in several areas of North Darfur.

“The Secretary-General is also extremely concerned about the arrest of 20 staff members of the United Nations, non-governmental organizations and the African Union Mission in Sudan in Nyala, South Darfur, on 19 January” the Secretary-General’s Spokesman told the press yesterday adding that “the Secretary-General expects a swift investigation of this incident, particularly as several of the staff were assaulted and seriously injured before they were released.”

The Secretary-General told the press in Brussels following his meeting yesterday with the President of the European Commission, Jose Manuel Barroso, that he will engage in dialogue with African leaders, including the President of Sudan on the crisis in Darfur during the African Union Summit to be held at the end of the month of January in Addis Ababa.

***UNMIS updates the Tripartite Mechanism on progress in the implementation of the UN Light Support Package to AMIS***

UNMIS informed the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Tripartite Mechanism held yesterday at the Mission’s Headquarters that a total of 27 UN military staff officers and 25 UN Police advisors have been deployed in Darfur in support to AMIS and that 5 additional UNPOL Advisors and 20 Military Staff Officers will be deployed shortly to the region. UNMIS indicated that by the end of January 2007, a total of 47 UN Military Staff Officers and 30 UNPOL Advisors would have been deployed under the LSP. Moreover, a total of 10 civilian staff have arrived to Khartoum, a number of them will be deployed in Darfur and the others will be assigned to assist AMIS Headquarter in Khartoum.

A fact sheet produced by UNMIS that summarizes relevant information on the LSP, including actual deployment of personnel and equipment will shortly be posted on the Mission’s website ([www.unmis.org](http://www.unmis.org)) in both English and Arabic.

The tripartite mechanism will meet again on 7 February at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Khartoum.

***The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflicts arrives tomorrow in Khartoum for a seven-day visit to the country***

Ms. Radhika Coomaraswamy, UN Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict will be visiting Sudan from 26 January to 1 February 2007, at the invitation of the Government of Sudan. The Special Representative will be accompanied by Rima Salah, UNICEF's Deputy Executive Director.

A press release issued today by the SRSG for Children and Armed conflict says that the objective of the field mission is to ascertain first hand the situation with a view to collaborating with all the stakeholders to ensure greater protection for children affected by the conflict.

“Ms. Coomaraswamy will engage in a constructive dialogue with the Government of Sudan on these important issues. Moreover, she will meet with relevant non state parties to the conflict in the effort to address grave violations against children. For these purposes, she will also undertake visits in Southern Sudan and in Northern and Western Darfur”, the press release says.

The mission is intended to follow up on the recommendations of the Secretary General's report on the situation of children and armed conflict in Sudan in the framework of Security Council Resolution 1612 (2005).

***Darfur: Insecurity continues to prevail in different parts of the region***

Harassment of UN, humanitarian workers and local population was reported in North and South Darfur.

In North Darfur, on 22 January, Military Intelligence at El Fasher Airport delayed UN operation to off load a cargo plane containing material under the UN Light support package to AMIS, arguing that the cargo manifest was not stamped by MI and National Security in El Obeid. The cargo was off-loaded after four hours of negotiations.

On 23 January, IDPs in Dar El-Salaam Camps complained about harassment by SLA/MM soldiers.

INGOs continue to work in difficult conditions.

In West Darfur, on 21 January, an INGO staff member in Krinding II IDP camp was robbed of money by two gunmen dressed in military uniform.

On 23 January, two armed elements, reportedly Chadian rebels, stopped an INGO vehicle in Umdirbo Hajar about 10 km from For Baranga and robbed radio communication equipment and unknown amount of money. The staff was allowed to drive back to For Baranga.

Attacks attributed to armed militia and tribal fighting has also been reported. On 23 January, armed militia reportedly attacked elements of one of the SLA factions 20 km South West of El Geneina.

Heavy fighting was reported on 23 January between the Aballa and Tergem tribes 60 km from Zaleingi, West Darfur.

In North Darfur, tribal fighting in the area of Kafod (60 km.NW of El Fasher) has led to the displacement of around 662 families.

On 23 January, information was received that GoS Antonov planes have been transporting uniformed military elements and arms to El Geneina airport for the last three days.

In North Darfur, information was received that a large convoy carrying GoS troops and armed militia left El Fasher and passed Kutum (105 km NW of Al Fasher) and proceeded towards the north.

**\* All UNMIS News Bulletins are available at [www.unmis.org](http://www.unmis.org)**

**\* For a printable version of "UNMIS in Pictures" please contact Mr. Fred NOY UNMIS Photographer at [noy@un.org](mailto:noy@un.org)**



### Day's end in Molomol

Another day has ended in the Abyei suburb of Molomol, where returnees from North Sudan are settling. In Sudan's Comprehensive Peace Agreement, a specific protocol provides for temporary arrangements to govern Abyei through the interim period.

23 January 2007  
© Fred NOY/UNMIS-PIO Khartoum

