



SUDAN MORNING NEWS

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Bashir: Sudan not affected by U.S. sanctions

Addressing a Presidential Meeting of the ongoing International Workers' Union being held in Khartoum, President Bashir said on January 15 that Sudan has benefited, not lost, from U.S. unilateral sanctions. He claimed out that U.S. oil companies were keeping all the details of Sudanese oil to themselves when they were operating here but the switch to Asian and other investors now allows Sudan access to information on the country's oil industry. (*Al-Khartoum*)

VPs Taha and Machar to head joint committee

The National Congress Party (NCP) and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) have agreed to merge their joint executive and political committees. This new committee will be named the Executive Political Committee and will be co-chaired by Vice President Taha (with Dr. Nafei Ali Nafei as his deputy) and Vice President Riek Machar of the Government of Southern Sudan. Its functions will include the consolidation of political and executive coordination in support of their partnership in government and to buttress the mechanisms for implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA). The new committee reports to the High Leadership Committee, headed by President Bashir and Vice President Kiir, and will convene its first meeting on January 24. (*Akhir Lahza*)

SAF repels JEM attack on Sheiriya

The spokesman for the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF), Brig. Osman Mohamed al-Aghbash, told the Sudan Media Center on January 15 that dozens of rebels from the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM), riding in 18 trucks, attacked Sudanese government troops with the intention of taking over the Sheiriya

area of South Darfur but were repelled by the army. He said that the JEM fighters have suffered heavy casualties and have withdrawn from the area. He also denied a rebel claim from a day earlier that Sudanese aircraft had bombed villages in West Darfur. (*Akhir Lahza*)

Talks start on deployment of hybrid operations

UNAMID and Sudan government officials started negotiations on January 15 in Khartoum on the deployment and operations of the joint AU-UN hybrid force, a UN spokesperson said. The talks will focus on the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA), which will regulate the deployment and operations of the UNAMID military and civilian personnel, said UN spokesperson Michele Montas. Other issues discussed include the final confirmation of the composition of the force and clearance to function 24 hours a day. (*Sudan Vision*)

Suspects to student's murder apprehended

On January 15, police in Gazeera State arrested the primary suspects to the murder of a student in Gazeera University. The student was stabbed to death following a heated campus debate between student supporters of the NCP and the Democratic Front. The deceased was a supporter of the Democratic Front. (*Rai Al-Shaab*)

The Sudan Morning News is compiled as a service of the Public Affairs Section at the U.S. Embassy in Khartoum, Sudan. It presents a partial survey of the current Sudanese press and international reporting about Sudan. This summary does not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Government.