



SUDAN MORNING NEWS

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President appoints new governors

President Bashir issued a decree yesterday appointing Salah Ali Adam as Governor of Kassala State, Dr. Ahmed Majzoub Ahmed as Governor of River Nile State, and Adil Awadh Suleiman as Governor of Northern State. (*Rai Al-Shaab*)

SPLM calls for renewed probe of Garang rash

The deputy leader of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM), Dr. Riek Machar, has called for a new probe into the helicopter crash that claimed the life of former First Vice President and SPLM leader Dr. John Garang in 2005. He told Reuters that such a probe would be better for the sake of SPLM unity and would put the issue to rest once and for all. He said that a number of prominent figures of the SPLM, such as Pagan Amum (SPLM Secretary General and also Federal Minister of Cabinet Affairs), doubted the results of the earlier investigation into the crash. (*Rai Al-Shaab*)

Parliament calls for elections support

The Speaker of the National Assembly, Ahmed Ibrahim Al-Tahir, has called for UN assistance for the forthcoming elections in Sudan. He met yesterday with the Special Representative of the Secretary General of the UN to Sudan, Ashraf Qazi, and told him that the Constitutional Review Commission is finalizing the drafting of the Elections Bill and that the Bill will soon be brought before parliament. (*Al-Sudani*)

Tense relations between Sudan and Chad

State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Al-Sammani Al-Waseela, has described Chadian threats to sever diplomatic ties with Sudan and to send Chadian troops in pursuit of Chadian rebel elements inside

Sudanese territory as "regrettable." In addition, the official spokesperson for the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) has denied Chadian accusations of the presence of Chadian rebel elements inside Sudanese territories. He said that the Sudanese government has no interest in harboring Chadian rebel elements. He did warn, however, that the (SAF) stands ready to defend the country against any enemy. A statement issued by the French Embassy in Khartoum said France is worried over the tensions between Khartoum and Ndjamen. (*Al-Ayaam*)

Clashes in South Kordofan

Defense Minister Abdulraheem Mohammed and Cabinet Affairs Minister Pagan Amum have reiterated commitments to adhere to the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) and not to resort to war. Amum, who heads a committee formed to help resolve the recent clashes between the SPLA and the Misseiriya people in South Kordofan, told the press yesterday that rumors surrounding the clashes have not helped resolve the tensions. On his part, the defense minister said that the army will not bend to pressures to return to a war footing. (*Al-Sahafa*)

Two-day weekend effective as of January 26

The Sudanese cabinet has adopted a two-day weekend in all parts of the country with effect from January 26, 2008. This is for an experimental six month period after which an assessment will be carried out. Khartoum state has already adopted the two-day weekend. (*Al-Hayat et al*)

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.