

UNAMID BULLETIN

UN Chief Welcomes Steps Toward Holding of Sudanese National Dialogue



On 5 September 2014, the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon welcomed the initiative of holding a comprehensive national dialogue in Sudan to achieve sustainable peace in Darfur. UN Photo (file photo).

On 5 September 2014, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon welcomed the initiative of holding a comprehensive national dialogue in

Sudan to achieve sustainable peace as well as the progress being made by Sudanese stakeholders to prepare for this process.

Mr. Ban, in a statement issued by his spokesperson, welcomed, in particular, the signing of an agreement between representatives of the G7+7 Preparatory Committee for the National Dialogue and the Paris Declaration Group, comprising the National Umma Party and the armed movements.

"The Secretary-General encourages all stakeholders, particularly the Government, to ensure the creation of a conducive environment for an inclusive, transparent and credible dialogue, as envis-

aged in the agreement signed today," said his spokesperson.

"This includes a cessation of hostilities, guarantees of political freedoms, including the freedom of speech and assembly, the release of political detainees and other confidence-building measures."

Mr. Ban stressed that a fully-inclusive, free and transparent dialogue is critical to address the root causes of the recurrent crises in Sudan and achieve sustainable peace.

He commended the African Union High-level Implementation Panel, led by President Thabo Mbeki, for its tireless efforts in helping the Sudanese find a peaceful solution to the conflicts in Sudan, and reiterated the con-

tinued support of the United Nations to this process.

Last month, the African Union-UN Joint Special Representative for Darfur, Mohamed Ibn Chambas, told the Security Council that the challenge for the international community remains how best to impress upon all the parties involved in the Darfur conflict that a military solution and the status quo are untenable.

"The Sudanese parties should be assisted to create the much-needed enabling environment for a genuine and inclusive dialogue and to recognize that the process could be a unique opportunity for sustainable resolution of all the conflicts afflicting the Sudan," he stated. ■

UNAMID Force Commander Attends Final Security Arrangements for JEM-Sudan Combatants

On 3 September 2014, the African Union-United Nations Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) Force Commander, Lt. General Paul Mella, attended the final security arrangements exercise for Justice and Equality Movement (JEM)-Sudan combatants which took place in Gadeed Alsail in El Fasher, North Darfur. The combatants went through assessment and registration processes; these processes are aimed at registering combatants, inspecting equipment and other assets of the movement. They also involve reintegration into the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) as well as disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration of ex-combatants who are not suitable to join the SAF.

"I would like to commend the great work done and take

this opportunity to reaffirm UNAMID's commitment to continue its support to the work of the Sudan Final Security Arrangements Commission. This is a significant step in the implementation of the final security arrangements as stipulated in the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur (DDPD) in particular and the peace process in general," said the Force Commander, on the occasion.

Lt. General Mella, who also chairs the Ceasefire Commission for Darfur, attended the event with the Commissioner for the final security arrangements, Major General (Rt.) Babikir Kooreina.

On 1 September 2014, the Sudan Final Security Arrangements Commission began the second phase of implementing



On 3 September, UNAMID Force Commander, Lt. General Paul Mella, attends the final security arrangements for JEM-Sudan, in El Fasher, North Darfur, which included the assessment and registration of heavy equipment and weapons. Photo by Hamid Abdulsalam, UNAMID.

the final security arrangements for JEM-Sudan combatants as stipulated in the DDPD.

JEM-Sudan is the second armed movement to renounce violence and sign a peace agreement with the Government of Sudan on the basis

of the DDPD. The movement signed a peace agreement with the Government of Sudan on 6 April 2013 in Doha. The Liberation and Justice Movement (LJM) was the first armed movement to conclude a peace deal on 14 July 2011. ■

Head of UNAMID Addresses Launch of Doha Document Security Arrangements in North Darfur



On 25 August 2014, (from left to right) Osman Kibir, Governor of North Darfur, Tigani Seisi, Chairman of the DRA, Mohamed Ibn Chambas, UNAMID's JSR, and Bakhit Dabajo, leader of JEM-Sudan are pictured at the launch of the security arrangements in El Fasher, North Darfur. Photo by Hamid Abdulsalam, UNAMID.

On 25 August 2014, security arrangements for integrating some 1,350 former combatants from the Justice and Equal-

ity Movement (JEM)-Sudan into the Government of Sudan military and police apparatus were launched in a ceremony in El

Fasher, North Darfur. The exercise is one of the main provisions stipulated in the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur (DDPD).

In his speech on the occasion, the African Union-United Nations Joint Special Representative (JSR) and Joint Chief Mediator for Darfur, Mr. Mohamed Ibn Chambas, highlighted the implementation of the security arrangements as an effective step toward achieving peace in Darfur. "The launching of the DDPD security arrangements is a milestone in the implementation of the DDPD," he said.

Mr. Chambas also reiterated the Mission's support to all the parties of the conflict. "UNA-

MID will continue to emphasize the need for cooperation and coordination among all concerned parties," he said.

The leader of JEM-Sudan, Brigadier-General Bakheit Abdallah Dabajo, said that these security arrangements will help ensure security, stability and development in the country in general, and Darfur in particular. The ceremony, which took place at the Sixth Military Division square, was attended by the Wali (Governor) of North Darfur, Mr. Osman Kibir, the Chairman of the Darfur Regional Authority (DRA), Tigani Seisi, and other dignitaries from the Government of Sudan, JEM-Sudan and UNAMID. ■

UNAMID JSR Inspects Peacekeepers in North Darfur

On 24 August 2014, the Joint Special Representative of the African Union-United Nations Mission in Darfur (UNAMID), Mr. Mohamed Ibn Chambas, paid a visit to the Mission's team sites in Um Baru and Tine, North Darfur, where he inspected newly deployed Senegalese peacekeepers in the area.

Addressing the troops, Mr. Chambas urged them to remain

alert at all times, be responsive to the security needs of the local population and facilitate their movements to enable them to lead a normal life. Additionally, he highlighted the importance of professionalism, competence and dedication to their work.

The JSR further recommended that the troops be fully aware of the on-ground situation in Darfur. "As a result of

proliferation of militia groups and an increasing amount of weapons in the hands of people, there is an escalation of banditry and criminality which present a threat to the local population," he said.

"We are here to protect civilians and undertake peace-keeping operations, but when attacked, we are authorised to defend ourselves robustly,"

added the JSR, pointing out that UNAMID is operating under Chapter Seven of the UN Charter.

As part of the trip, Mr. Chambas met with members of the local communities in Um Baru and Tine and assured them of the Mission's commitment to supporting peace efforts in the region to sustain the wellbeing of all Darfuri people. ■

UNAMID Head Engages Government, Displaced Leaders in South Darfur to Defuse Tension

On 21 August 2014, the Head of the African Union-United Nations Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) and Joint Chief Mediator, Mr. Mohamed Ibn Chambas, visited Nyala, South Darfur, to defuse tension in the area following recent security operations carried out by State authorities in camps for internally displaced persons (IDPs) and to coordinate with local

authorities on tribal reconciliation and community development. During the two-day visit, Mr. Chambas met with Government authorities, IDP leaders and representatives of UN agencies operating in the state.

The JSR met with the leaders of the Kalma IDP camp and emphasized that UNAMID will work tirelessly with the Government and with the IDPs, as mandated, to support

all legitimate law enforcement activities conducted with due respect to human rights and rule of law. In a meeting with the South Darfur Wali (Governor), Mr. Adam Mahmoud Jar Alnabi, the Head of UNAMID acknowledged the positive impact of the recent security measures adopted and urged Government authorities, in conducting the security operations, to respect international

human rights standards. In addition to addressing the security concerns that have emerged in recent days, the Head of UNAMID urged the IDPs with whom he spoke to participate in the Darfur Internal Dialogue and Consultation process and to impress upon leaders of the non-signatory movements to participate in the national dialogue as a means to achieve comprehensive peace. ■