

UNAMID BULLETIN

UN Peacekeeping Chief Visits Sudan

The United Nations Under-Secretary-General (USG) for Peacekeeping Operations, Hervé Ladsous, accompanied by the Joint Special Representative and head of UNAMID, Mohamed Ibn Chambas, wrapped up a visit to Sudan on 5 July 2013.

During the visit, which began on 3 July, Mr. Ladsous travelled to El Daein, East Darfur, where he met with the Wali (Governor) and other members of local government, native administration and civil society leaders, and as internally displaced people at the Neem camp. In addition, he had extensive discussions with UNAMID personnel. In Khartoum, Mr. Ladsous met with President Omar Al-Bashir and other senior officials of the Government of Sudan.

Speaking to the press in Khartoum on 4 July, the USG expressed concern over the recent intensification of conflict in Darfur and its impact on the civilian population. "We have witnessed a deterioration in the security situation," the head of

UN peacekeeping said. "More people have been displaced—more than 300,000 since the beginning of this year—due mostly to tribal clashes."

Mr. Ladsous called on all parties to cease hostilities and praised the efforts of UNAMID peacekeepers to protect civilians, secure the delivery of aid and support the peace process. He stated that on 3 July, three peacekeepers were injured in an ambush on a UNAMID convoy near Labado, East Darfur.

"Attacks on peacekeepers are a crime," he said, adding that in violation of international humanitarian law a UNAMID ambulance was fired upon by the unidentified armed group that had mounted the ambush. Condemning the incident and noting the peacekeepers' robust response to the attack, the USG stressed that the perpetrators must be apprehended and prosecuted.

The USG reiterated the UN's support for the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur and urged the Government of Sudan and the non-signatory



On 3 July 2013 in El Daein, East Darfur, Hervé Ladsous, the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, is welcomed by the local community during his arrival at the Neem camp for internally displaced people. Photo by Albert González Farran, UNAMID.

movements to cease hostilities and enter into negotiations immediately.

Regarding relations between Sudan and South Sudan, Mr. Ladsous called on the governments of both countries to fully implement the 27 September agreements and resolve all disputes through the bilateral mechanisms provided for in these accords.

Mr. Ladsous expressed concern over the security

and humanitarian situation in Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile states. He noted that a disagreement between the parties over modalities for humanitarian access was preventing the conduct of a campaign to vaccinate 150,000 children. He urged the parties to that conflict to allow unhindered humanitarian access to people in need.

The USG's visit to Sudan is part of a wider tour including South Sudan and Mali. ■

UNAMID Continues to Help Rebuild Darfur's Schools

As part of the Mission's ongoing work to assist in making the school environments across Darfur more conducive to learning, UNAMID funded the construction of two classrooms and an office at Umbaro Secondary School for Boys, located roughly 300 kilometres northwest of El Fasher, North Darfur.

The three-month quick-impact project, which began in March and concluded in July, was implemented by local nongovernmental organisation Al-Nahda. The new facilities, which were officially handed over to the Education Authority in Umbaro

on 8 July 2013, are designed to help address the issue of overcrowding at the school, now attended by more than 750 students, 450 of which are newly enrolled.

"Such projects will definitely encourage the stability of our community," said Mr. Kemal Mohammed Saleh, Deputy Headmaster of the Umbaro School, during the official inauguration ceremony.

Through its quick-impact projects programme and in collaboration with education stakeholders in the region, UNAMID has been contributing to the amelioration of the conditions at schools across Darfur. ■



On 8 July 2013, two new classrooms and an office building, funded through UNAMID's quick-impact project programme, were officially handed over to the Education Authority in Umbaro, roughly 300 kilometres northwest of El Fasher, North Darfur. Photo by Albert González Farran, UNAMID.

UNAMID Supports Judicial System in Darfur



On 23 June 2013, legal professionals participate in a workshop on gender-based violence. Photo by Albert González Farran, UNAMID.

In collaboration with UN Women, UNAMID organized two workshops for paralegals and judges working in rural courts in North Darfur. The workshops were set up to raise awareness about international standards and national legislation related to sexual and gender-based violence.

The workshops, which began on 23 June in El Fasher, North Darfur, and concluded on 27 June, focused on international human rights standards,

UN Security Council Resolution 1325, Children's rights conventions, Sudan's penal code, civil status law and legal procedures.

UNAMID has been conducting similar workshops throughout Darfur to provide legal professionals with additional training to participate in the peace and reconciliation process and to enable them to conduct similar awareness workshops in their own communities. ■

Workshop to Stop Violence Against Women

On 1 July 2013, in collaboration with the North Darfur Gender-Based Violence Committee and the State's Ministry of Social Affairs, UNAMID conducted a two-day workshop on combating violence against women. The workshop, attended by judges, prosecutors, officials from the Sudanese armed forces, medical personnel and civil society leaders, was set up to heighten awareness about the responsibilities of Government institutions related to women's rights.

"This workshop is designed to help eradicate violence against women and to enable them to play their role in peace-

building, community leadership and decision-making," said UNAMID Gender Affairs Officer, Ms. Khadijatu Carrera, during her opening remarks to the participants. "Judges, prosecutors and law-enforcement officials have a significant role to play in combating gender-based violence."

Also in opening remarks, the State's Minister of Social Affairs, Mr. Khalil Abdalla, noted that gender issues are clearly outlined in Sudanese law and that they are especially important in conflict-affected areas such as Darfur. "This workshop will result in positive impacts on the community,

UNAMID Head Visits Zam Zam Camp in North Darfur

On 24 June 2013, on the outskirts of El Fasher, North Darfur, UNAMID Joint Special Representative Mohamed Ibn Chambas visited the Zam Zam camp for internally displaced people to strengthen ties with the community's leaders and other residents of the camp.

In a speech delivered during a ceremony to honour the winners of the final match of a youth football tournament organized by UNAMID in collaboration with the Zam Zam Youth Union, JSR Chambas assured the Zam Zam community of the Mission's commitment to imple-

ment its mandate.

"We are here in Darfur to provide protection in Zam Zam and other camps, to facilitate humanitarian aid and to work with you in searching for permanent and lasting peace in the region," he said. "Let me thank the young people who have been engaged in this healthy competition, trying to see who will be the champion," said UNAMID's Head. "It is not important who wins; it is the spirit in which you have been playing together and enjoying yourselves that we have come to celebrate." ■



On 24 June 2013 in El Fasher, North Darfur, UNAMID JSR Mohamed Ibn Chambas visited the Zam Zam camp for internally displaced people to strengthen ties with the community. Photo by Albert González Farran, UNAMID.



On 1 July 2013, in collaboration with the North Darfur Gender Based Violence Committee and the State's Ministry of Social Affairs, UNAMID conducted a workshop on violence against women. Photo by Hamid Abdulsalam, UNAMID.

as it targets all law-enforcement parties," he said.

The workshop included a

presentation on gender based violence and active participation from those in attendance. ■