

# UNAMID BULLETIN

## Darfur Mediator Meets South Sudan VP, Chad President

UNAMID Joint Special Representative and Joint Chief Mediator (JSR/JCM), Mr. Mohamed Ibn Chambas, visited Juba, South Sudan, from 13 to 16 November to meet South Sudan Vice President Wani Igga and the country's Ministers of Foreign Affairs and National Security. During the trip, he briefed members of the diplomatic corps and held consultations with the leadership of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan, to explore ways to enhance the achievement of the two missions' respective mandates.

The visit is part of a larger tour that includes the JSR/JCM traveling to Sudan's neighbours to underscore the

importance of regional cooperation to resolve the Darfur conflict not only for Darfuris but also for the peace and stability of the entire region.

During the visit, Mr. Chambas stated that lasting peace in Darfur is necessary for regional stability, and said that peace in Darfur would open new horizons for future development and economic growth that would benefit the entire sub-region.

"We congratulate Khartoum and Juba for the goodwill and cordial relations they have generated and maintained over the past few months," he said. "UNAMID will seek to foster this bonhomie among the two countries to achieve inclusive peace

and security in Darfur."

Vice President Igga said he welcomed Mr. Chambas' efforts in widening the opportunities for enhanced partnership among Sudan's neighbours, particularly South Sudan. He assured the UNAMID Head of his country's full and continued support in advancing the JSR/JCM's mediation efforts.

On 25 November, in a similar regional visit, JSR/JCM Chambas met with Chad President Idriss Déby in N'Djamena to brief the President on the security situation in Darfur. He shared plans with the President to engage the non-signatory movements in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in December, and sought the

support of the President in bringing on board the non-signatory movements.

President Déby stated that peace in Darfur is essential for regional security, and noted that the conflict has had grave socioeconomic consequences for Chad. He said he deplored the worsening security situation in Darfur, which had stopped the refugees in Chad from returning to their country and displaced Darfuris from returning to their chosen communities.

President Déby told the JSR that the international community should be more involved in the peace process and commended the JSR's efforts, assuring him of Chad's support and cooperation. ■

## UNAMID and Sudanese Police Strengthen Cooperation



On 27 November 2013 in Khartoum, Sudan, UNAMID Deputy Joint Special Representative Joseph Mutaboba delivers opening remarks ahead of a strategic workshop designed to strengthen cooperation between UNAMID and GoS Police. Photo by Guiomar Pau Solé, UNAMID.

On 27 November 2013, police officers from both UNAMID and the Government of Sudan (GoS) Police held a workshop in Khartoum to discuss the memorandum of understanding they signed in August 2013. The event was attended by some 100

police officers from both institutions.

In his opening remarks, UNAMID Deputy Joint Special Representative Joseph Mutaboba explained that UNAMID's Police component is assisting in building the capacity of the

GoS Police in Darfur, including through the promotion of democratic values, rule of law and respect for human rights.

"It is vital that law and order are restored and maintained, and that the police system continues to be an important institution in our efforts to build a society that is based on the rule of law," Mr. Mutaboba said. "It is therefore imperative that the policing system is properly planned and strengthened to enable it to respond to the demands of the community."

The event was attended by the Minister of Interior, Mr. Ibrahim Mahmoud Hamed, who said that the goal of the workshop is to help achieve peace and stability in Darfur and that the role of UNAMID is to help in achieving this. "Peace

will not be realized by increasing military and police troop numbers, but by making peace a culture," he stated.

UNAMID Police Commissioner Hester Paneras spoke during the event and noted the importance of the memorandum of understanding.

"If UNAMID and its partner, GoS Police, work together, they can truly make positive change happen for the sake of Darfuris," she said.

During the workshop, participants discussed the importance of enhancing the capacity-building of GoS police, protecting Darfur communities and effectively coordinating community-policing initiatives. The workshop's outcome document is expected to form the basis for a joint strategy. ■

## UNAMID Head Urges Tribal Leaders to Resolve Conflicts Peacefully



On 19 November 2013 in Nyala, South Darfur, UNAMID's Civil Affairs section held a workshop, the third in a series that UNAMID is organizing, to find a solution to the tribal conflicts in the area. Photo by Hamid Abdulsalam, UNAMID.

On 19 November 2013, speaking to some 200 South Darfur tribal leaders, UNAMID Joint Special Representative (JSR) Mohamed Ibn Chambas stressed the need to embrace the principle of resolving conflict through dialogue, negotiation and other

peaceful means and to guard against repeating the same patterns that have caused suffering in the region.

The JSR met with tribal leaders in a two-day conference in Nyala to discuss the root causes of tribal conflict and recommend possible solu-

tions for sustainable peaceful coexistence in the region.

"After 10 years of conflict and much suffering, it must be clear to everyone that there can be no viable military solution to the conflict in Darfur," the JSR stated during the opening session of the conference,

which was attended by South Darfur Deputy Wali (Governor) Mahdi Mohammed Bosh.

UNAMID's Head said he regrets the deterioration of the security situation across Darfur during the past few months. "Conflicts erupted between tribes that have coexisted peacefully for hundreds of years," he said. "What is even more worrying has been the intensity of these conflicts and the excessively high number of casualties."

The JSR expressed concern about the tribal violence that has affected the civilian population and has contributed to an increase in the number of displaced people in camps around Darfur.

"It is also clear that ethnic clashes have contributed to ongoing insecurity and the worsening humanitarian situation in Darfur," the JSR said. This event is the third in a series of conferences that UNAMID Civil Affairs is organizing in the five states of Darfur to find a solution to the tribal conflicts in the area. ■

## Conference Held on Natural Resources Management



On 20 November 2013 in Khartoum, Sudan, UNAMID and the Darfur Land Commission held a conference on land and natural-resource management in Darfur. The conference was chaired by UNAMID Joint Special Representative Mohamed Ibn Chambas (left) and Darfur Regional Authority Chair Tigani Seisi. Photo by Hamid Abdulsalam, UNAMID.

On 20 November 2013, in Khartoum, Sudan, participants at a conference on the role of the Darfur Land Commission discussed the impact of land use on sustainable development. The forum, jointly organized by the

Darfur Land Commission and UNAMID, was addressed by UNAMID Head Mohamed Ibn Chambas and Darfur Regional Authority Chair Eltigani Seisi.

The conference brought together more than 120 par-

ticipants, including technical experts from the Ministries of Planning, Land, Environment, Agriculture and Animal Resources; representatives of the diplomatic community and donor countries; university lecturers and academics; representatives from Darfur's five states; and United Nations agencies.

In his opening remarks, UNAMID's Head called attention to the nexus between resource management and peacebuilding. He said that better natural-resource management would have a direct impact on livelihoods, food and poverty.

"Natural resource management and land reform needs to ensure that those who have been traditionally excluded from owning and accessing land are now legally entitled to own,

access and inherit land," Mr. Chambas said. "In this context, women, especially widows, need the official recognition of their rights to own, access and inherit land, as, often, they are the ones toiling in the land to produce food."

The JSR said the conference represents an important effort to work out the procedures necessary to resolve conflicts related to land. At the end of the conference, the participants consolidated their discussion into several recommendations: reviewing land ownership regulations; promoting awareness about proper land use; developing a comprehensive natural resource and land use database; and looking more deeply into the root causes of the conflict in Darfur. ■

## Convoy Attacked in North Darfur, One Peacekeeper Killed

On 24 November 2013, a UNAMID convoy came under attack by an unknown armed people on the road from Kabkabiya to Saraf Umra in North Darfur.

One soldier from Rwanda, who was shot during the assault, succumbed to his injuries later in the Mission's

hospital in Kabkabiya. One of the UNAMID vehicles was hijacked by the attackers.

UNAMID Joint Special Representative (JSR) Mohamed Ibn Chambas strongly condemned the attack and noted that this act that has caused the death of one Rwandese peacekeeper

has now raised to 14 the number of peacekeepers the

Mission has lost in 2013 alone. "This was clearly a crime against humanity by desperate individuals," Mr. Chambas said. "I once more call on the Government of Sudan to act decisively and quickly in bringing the per-

petrators to justice."

The JSR extended his heartfelt condolences to the family of the fallen peacekeeper, the Rwandan contingent and the Government of Rwanda, which, he stated, has contributed immensely to UNAMID's operations. ■

## Peacekeepers Provide Healthcare to East Darfur Displaced



On 20 November 2013 in Labado, East Darfur, UNAMID peacekeepers from Nigeria register local Darfuris before they are treated by medical personnel. Since April 2013, nearly 200 patients (mostly women and children) have been treated at the UNAMID clinic each week. Photo by Albert González Farran, UNAMID.

Thousands of internally displaced people have received protection and health-care from UNAMID since April 2013, when fighting between Government of Sudan troops and an armed movement forced them to flee their homes in Labado, East Darfur. The village's main market, its nine schools and the health-care facility were looted and destroyed during the clashes.

As a result of the fighting, approximately 29,000 people from Labado and its surrounding villages were displaced to different camps in South, North and East Darfur. Several thousand people took

refuge in the vicinity of UNAMID's team site near Labado. As health has been one of the most critical needs for these displaced people, UNAMID's medical professionals have been providing assistance.

About 200 patients per week, the majority women and children, visit the Mission's clinic, run by Nigerian peacekeepers. In addition to treating malaria, typhoid, flu, malnutrition and eye infections, the medical team has assisted in delivering babies and supporting pregnant women experiencing prenatal difficulties.

"Within our limited capac-

ity and resources, we are doing everything we can to support the community and save lives," said Lt. Matthew Gowon, a UNAMID physician in Labado. "We have called on the humanitarian agencies to urgently provide the necessary support, particularly medicines, for children and pregnant women."

UNAMID continues to liaise with relevant UN and international humanitarian agencies to provide much-needed aid for the displaced people of Labado.

On 20 November 2013, the Mission facilitated the delivery of medical supplies

provided by the World Health Organization. The Sudanese Red Crescent organisation, supported logistically by UNAMID, has worked to open a temporary medical centre in the area. ■

In the interest of continuing to do whatever is in its capability to protect civilians and support the humanitarian community in meeting the needs of the displaced people of Darfur, UNAMID has reinforced its security patrols in the area and is conducting regular escorts for the displaced people, particularly women, as they search nearby for water and firewood. ■