

UNAMID BULLETIN

UNAMID Drills Water Source for Community in Darfur



The new 236 metre well in Gereida, South Darfur, is expected to provide more than 16,000 litres of water an hour, which will be shared between the Mission and the Darfuris in the area.

As part of addressing the scarcity of water in Darfur, UNAMID completed a water borehole in Gereida, South Darfur. The 236 metre well is expected to provide more than 16,000 litres of water an hour, which will be shared between the Mission and the Darfuris in the area. This is the first water source drilled using the Mission's own equipment.

"Recognizing that lack of

access to water is one of the major drivers of the conflict in Darfur, the objective of UNAMID's water source search programme is to minimize conflicts over the scarcity of water resources," said Emmanuel Mollel, Head of UNAMID's Water and Environmental Protection section.

In the past, the Mission relied on UNAMID's engineering components from China,

Ethiopia and Thailand as well as on local contractors with drilling capabilities. One of the goals of the new borehole programme, in addition to facilitating water access for Darfuris, is for the Mission to be more self-sufficient with its water supply.

The 2011 International Water Conference focused on addressing water scarcity in Darfur and how to determine the

equitable use and management of this limited resource to help build peace in the region. As part of the strategy that emerged from that conference, UNAMID has been partnering with UN agencies, international organisations and Sudanese institutions in mobilizing resources needed to implement an integrated water resource program.

Mr. Mollel explained that, as one aspect of this strategy, the Mission is using innovative methods to store water. These methods include rainwater harvesting from roofs and rehabilitation of *hafirs*, or dams, to trap surface rain water during the rainy season. Rehabilitation of three hafirs is currently underway in South Darfur and is expected to be completed next year.

UNAMID is drilling similar water wells in El Fasher, North Darfur, and El Daein, East Darfur. The Mission is planning to drill more than one dozen water wells throughout Darfur. ■

Protecting Civilians at Forefront of UNCT-UNAMID Meeting

Strengthening partnerships to protect civilians was the focus of the fourth coordination meeting between the UN Country Team (UNCT) and UNAMID.

The event, held on 9 September in Khartoum, Sudan, was cochaired by UNAMID Acting Joint Special Representative Aichatou Mindaoudou and UN Resident Coordinator/ Humanitarian Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Sudan Ali Al-Za'tari.

In the meeting, UNCT and UNAMID discussed a multi-dimensional and community-based approach to protecting civilians and agreed that a joint

committee would incorporate inputs proposed by the humanitarian community.

The Mission used the occasion to update the Country Team on the security and political situation in the region and on the most recent developments concerning the implementation of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur.

The Country Team and the Mission renewed their commitment to work in support of the Doha Document and the ongoing Darfur Joint Assessment Mission in preparation for the Darfur Donors Conference, set to take place in Qatar in December 2012. ■

UNAMID Deeply Concerned over Violence in Kutum

On 9 September, UNAMID's leadership expressed deep concern over a recent resumption of violence in Kutum, North Darfur, that reportedly resulted in several dead.

The Mission's team site near the town, located approximately 100 kilometers northwest of El Fasher, reported that the security situation began to deteriorate on 4 September with a rash of shootings, including an assassination attempt on a local official. UNAMID evacuated by helicopter several wounded civilians to El Fasher for

emergency treatment.

"I am saddened that the people of Kutum have again had to endure pain and suffering," said UNAMID Acting Joint Special Representative Aichatou Mindaoudou. "UNAMID calls for a cessation in hostilities and for all parties to engage in peaceful dialogue."

The latest incidents came as the locality was still recovering from a series of attacks and subsequent destruction and looting early last month following the killing of a local commissioner and his driver. ■

End of Mission Message by Ibrahim Gambari



On 4 September 2012, Professor Ibrahim Gambari bids farewell to staff in a town hall meeting at UNAMID headquarters in El Fasher, North Darfur.

On assuming my duties as Joint Special Representative on 22 January 2010, I noted that UNAMID was here to help in bringing about peace and stability in Darfur and set for myself and the Mission four priority goals, namely proactive support to the peace process, contributing to enhancing relations between Chad and Sudan, facilitating and strengthening security for the civilian population and UN staff, and encouraging, supporting and facilitating the transition from emergency relief to early recovery where possible. I pledged to give my very best to work with all stakeholders to help achieve these objectives as outlined in the mandate of the Mission.

I am gratified to note that barely 31 months on, all the set goals and objectives have largely been met. The Doha Document for Peace in Darfur (DDPD) was signed in July 2011. As acknowledged both within and outside Sudan, the DDPD remains a viable peace document that paves the way for a better future for all Darfuris, as it addresses the root causes of the conflict and its consequences. I travelled extensively in and around Darfur, met and engaged with the Sudanese Government, armed move-

ments, internally displaced persons, civil society groups, and international partners to garner support for peace in the region. In all these encounters, particularly with ordinary Darfuris both in IDP camps and in the larger society, the message was the same: an end to hostility and the need for peace and development. The population has suffered too long and too deeply and it is indeed time to bring succour to them.

As I depart the Mission, am pleased to note that concrete steps in the implementation of the Doha Document have been taken. I urge the signatory parties to remain committed and ensure full implementation of all the DDPD provisions in a timely manner as the DDPD holds the promise of concrete improvements in the lives of the Darfuri people in a safe and secure environment. It is only in such a secure and stable environment that the transition from humanitarian crisis to early recovery and development in Darfur can be enhanced and facilitated by all stakeholders, particularly the major international partners and donors. The DRA, which is mandated to implement the DDPD, needs and deserves our support in all aspects of its work.

Since taking up the additional role of Joint Chief Mediator ad interim a year ago, I have endeavoured to seek the support of all stakeholders, particularly the holdout movements, in co-ordination and collaboration with major stakeholders including the Government of Sudan. While the road to travel for comprehensive and sustainable peace in Darfur remains hard and long, I remain convinced that with goodwill on all sides, peace is achievable in the short term in Darfur. Let me reiterate that no matter the different positions and strategies of all concerned, it is imperative that the interest of the people of Darfur for peace and stability should remain paramount.

UNAMID has made a positive difference in the lives of people of Darfur, especially the most vulnerable ones. The Mission's day and night patrols, which increased from about 90 a day to an average of more than 160, and presence in and near IDP camps, have saved thousands of lives. The Mission has indeed come a long way to protect civilians in a more robust manner and facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance to those who are in dire need of it. We have even opened up areas that were previously not accessible over the years, such as Jebel Marra. In addition, the Mission implemented 460 quick impact projects in the areas of education, health, water, women's development and rule of law. Under tough circumstances, uniformed personnel have been helping in building roads, digging wells, drilling dozens of water boreholes, without craving for publicity. These were just a few of the many achievements of a Mission that is unique in its design and destiny.

While this is the end of my

tenure with UNAMID, I am leaving Sudan filled with hope and pride. In the past 2 years and 7 months, I have had the privilege of leading the committed men and women of UNAMID. The hard work undertaken by the national and international staff of UNAMID under difficult circumstance has been a source of personal inspiration. I must acknowledge the 38 men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice in active service since inception of the Mission. May their souls rest in peace. The best tribute we can pay to their memory is to redouble our efforts in the implementation of the Mission's mandate and ensure that they did not die in vain.

I would like also to acknowledge the work of Mr. Djibril Bassolé, my predecessor as Joint Chief Mediator and the unwavering commitment and personal focus of the Qatari Deputy Prime Minister Al Mahmoud and the generosity and commitment of the Amir of the State of Qatar. Together with the leadership of the parties to the DDPD, the United Nations Country Team, the Diplomatic Corps, the men and women of UNAMID and the people of Darfur we have laid a strong foundation for a new future in Darfur—a future of peace, stability, recovery and development. Together, let us continue to support the parties to the DDPD as they build on this foundation. I say together, because Darfur and Sudan will remain with me, and you can rest assured that I will continue to promote peace in Darfur wherever I may be and in whatever capacity I find myself in the future.

Thank you and may Allah let peace prevail in Darfur and in Sudan. ■