

UNAMID BULLETIN

Secretary-General Message on United Nations Day

We are living through a period of profound turmoil, transition and transformation. Insecurity, inequality and intolerance are spreading. Global and national institutions are being put to the test. With so much at stake, the United Nations must keep pace across the spectrum of its activities—peace, development, human rights, the rule of law, the empowerment of the world's women and youth.

There has been important progress on many fronts. Extreme poverty has been cut in half since the year 2000. Democratic transitions are under way in many countries. There are encouraging signs of economic growth across the developing world.

Now is the time to raise our collective ambitions. With the 2015 deadline for the Millennium Development Goals fast approaching, we must intensify our efforts to reach all of these lifesaving targets. We



On 24 October, UNAMID, UN agencies and the people of Darfur gathered in El Fasher, North Darfur, to commemorate the 67th anniversary of the UN with a special parade, cultural dances, peace songs and exhibitions to promote the principles of the organisation. Similar events were held throughout Darfur. Photo by Albert González Farran, UNAMID.

must prepare a bold and practical post-2015 development agenda. And we must continue to combat intolerance, save people caught in conflicts and establish lasting peace.

The United Nations is not just a meeting place for diplomats. The United Nations is a peacekeeper disarming fighters, a health worker distribut-

ing medicine, a relief team aiding refugees, a human rights expert helping deliver justice.

In carrying out this global mission, we rely on countless friends and supporters. Non-governmental organizations, scientists, scholars, philanthropists, religious leaders, business executives and concerned citizens are critical to

our success. No single leader, country or institution can do everything. But each of us, in our own way, can do something.

On this UN Day, let us reaffirm our individual commitment and our collective resolve to live up to the ideals of the United Nations Charter and build a better world for all. ■

Rebel Group Agrees to Peace Process Negotiations

On 22 October, representatives from the Government of Sudan and Justice and Equality Movement Sudan signed a declaration affirming their commitment to the peace process, the immediate cessation of hostilities and the resumption of negotiations to achieve a comprehensive conflict settlement on the basis of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur (DDPD).

The two parties, led by Sudanese Minister of State in the Presidency Amin Hassan Omer and JEM-Sudan President of the Interim Military Council Mohammad Bashar Ahmed, agreed to talks after the holiday of Eid Al-Adha.

The declaration was signed in Doha, Qatar, where the delegations held intensive consultations from 17 - 22 October 2012 in the presence of Qatari Deputy Prime Minister Ahmed Bin Abdullah Al-Mahmoud and African Union-United Nations Joint Chief Mediator a.i. Ms. Aichatou S. Mindaoudou.

In a statement issued by Mr. Al-Mahmoud and Ms. Mindaoudou, the mediation participants called upon the other nonsignatory movements to join the peace process with a view to alleviating the suffering of the population and restoring peace to all parts of Darfur. ■

UNAMID Peacekeeper Killed in Ambush near Hashaba



The Armoured Personnel Carrier shown above was damaged during the Hashaba attack in which one peacekeeper from South Africa died and three others were injured. Photo by Albert González Farran, UNAMID.

One UNAMID peacekeeper from South Africa died and three others were injured in an ambush that took place at 10.00 a.m. on 17 October, approximately 10 kilometres from Hashaba North, North Darfur.

The incident occurred while

a UNAMID convoy was on its way from Kutum to Hashaba North, 56 kilometres northeast of Kutum, to assess the situation following recent reports of violence in that area. The 17 October mission, which consisted of military, police and civilian per-

sonnel, followed an initial UNAMID assessment mission on 3 October. UNAMID personnel, who came under a combination of automatic and mortar fire by unidentified assailants, returned fire.

"I condemn, in the strongest possible terms, the second criminal attack on our brave peacekeepers in the course of this month, during which we have lost five peacekeepers," said Acting Joint Special Representative

and Joint Chief Mediator a.i., Ms. Aichatou Mindaoudou. "These attacks will not shake our resolve to fulfil our mandate and help the people of Darfur."

Since the initial deployment of UNAMID on 31 December

2007, 43 peacekeepers have been killed as a result of hostile actions. The Acting Joint Special Representative called on the Government of Sudan to investigate the Hashaba incident and bring the perpetrators to justice. ■

Nomad Workshop Focuses on Strategic Development Plan

On 17 October 2012, in a one-day workshop hosted by the Geneva-based Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, with logistical support from UNAMID, representatives from the Darfur Nomads Network appealed for infrastructure development as a key factor of recovery initiatives to support Darfur's nomadic communities.

The workshop, which brought together representatives from UNAMID, UN agencies, international nongovernmental organisations and nomadic leaders from the five states of Darfur, served as a platform to address the critical role nomads play in the peace process and to determine the best way forward for these mobile communities.

"Support to nomads will contribute to resolving the Darfur problem," said Haussan Abdulaziz, the head of the North Darfur Nomads Network, while addressing the workshop.

The meeting provided an

opportunity to deliberate about aspects of the peace processes related to Darfur's nomadic cultures, including social cohesion and the specific concerns of nomadic women and their role in reconciliation within and between communities. Workshop participants discussed progress made so far in these efforts and outlined a comprehensive plan for the future.

"The international community has a moral obligation to support nomads, but wants to see nomads committed to peace in the region and not engage in violence," remarked Oriano Micaletti, Officer in Charge of UNAMID's Humanitarian, Protection Strategy Coordination division.

For his part, the Chair of the Darfur Nomads Network, Ibrahim Al-Riheidi, voiced his support for the workshop's agenda and other peace and reconciliation efforts throughout Darfur. Fathia Mohammed Abd ul-Aziz,



On 17 October, in El Fasher, North Darfur, members of Darfur's nomadic communities and international organizations participated in a workshop to discuss development strategies related to the peace process. Photo by Sojoud Elgarrai, UNAMID.

a representative of the nomadic women in West Darfur, called on the relevant bodies to support women's issues through establishing reproductive health centres and by involving nomadic women directly in the peace process.

To date, through its quick-impact projects (QIPs) programme, UNAMID has facilitated several projects to raise awareness about nomadic issues, disseminate a culture of peace

and help Darfur's nomads earn better livings through income-raising activities. Additional UNAMID QIPs are expected to provide better access to water, education and health services for nomadic communities in Darfur.

During the meeting, representatives from the UN Development Programme committed to prioritising the nomadic community's needs in its administration of the Darfur Community Peace and Stability Fund. ■

Darfur Technology Development Discussed in El Fasher

On 15 and 16 October in El Fasher, North Darfur, the Darfur Regional Authority (DRA), supported by UNAMID and the UN Development Programme (UNDP), held a two-day workshop to create a technology-development strategy for the region.

The three-year strategic plan discussed at the workshop covers the period from 2013 to 2016 and includes recommendations for establishing Darfur's first technology-oriented university, several technical vocational centres

and new curricula for primary and secondary schools. DRA's Minister of Technology Development and Capacity Building, Mr. Osman Ahmed Wash, spoke during the workshop's opening session and called attention to the importance of developing skills and technological know-how in Darfur to enhance growth and development.

"The Darfur region is endowed with huge natural resources, but it is not being exploited for the wellbeing of the people due to lack of knowledge,

skills, technology and access to energy services, so we need to work out a plan to achieve the desired objectives," the Minister said, adding that the workshop was set up to create plans for capacity-building in Darfur and encourage applied scientific research in cooperation and co-ordination with the universities and vocational training centres.

Also speaking at the workshop was the DRA Minister of Finance, Mrs. Amna Haroun, who called on the authorities of the five Darfur states to col-

laborate with UN agencies, development partners, the private sector, financial institutions and universities on research and development programmes geared toward technological advancement.

The workshop was attended by officials from UNAMID's Civil Affairs and Humanitarian Protection Strategy divisions, UNDP, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), and representatives from the private sector and the Government of Sudan. ■