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“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 envisaged 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.

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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 the final security arrangements for JEM-Sudan combatants as stipulated in the DDPD. The movement signed a peace agreement with the Government of Sudan in 4 June 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, security arrangements for integrating some 1,350 former combatants from the Justice and Equality 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. “UNAMID 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 peacekeeping 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.