

# UNAMID BULLETIN

## UNAMID Conference Addresses Tribal Conflicts



On 30 September and 1 October 2013 in El Fasher, North Darfur, more than 100 leaders from North Darfur participated in a conference to discuss the causes of and possible solutions to tribal conflicts. Photo by Albert González Farran, UNAMID.

On 30 September and 1 October 2013, more than 100 leaders from North Darfur tribes, along with representatives from North Darfur's native administration, participated in a conference to discuss the causes of tribal conflicts in Darfur and to propose possible solutions for sustainable peaceful coexistence. The conference, sponsored by UNAMID, took place in El

Fasher, North Darfur. "I believe that Darfur is rich both above the ground and under the ground," said Ms. Retta Reddy, Head of UNAMID's Civil Affairs section, in her opening remarks. "It is rich above the ground through its human resources—all of you, the great intellectuals and technocrats with wisdom and skills to meet all the needs of Darfur."

Fasher, North Darfur.

Ms. Reddy added that, to address the causes of the conflict inclusively, Darfur needs effective resource management to ensure that all people of the region benefit equitably.

The Head of the Darfur Regional Authority's Legislative Council, Sultan Saad Bahr-Eldein, said that this conference is a step toward solving tribal conflicts in Darfur. "The Dar-

fur Regional Authority Council would like to assure that it will carry out its tasks on endorsing laws and legislation that help all the people of Darfur in organizing their land, routes and animal pastures," he stated.

Conference participants recommended setting up clear rules to manage land and natural resources; reform the rural courts; invest in livestock; re-settle nomads; include land use in Sudan's constitution; implement the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur; and build institutional capacity to address displaced young people.

This event was the second in a series of conferences organized by UNAMID's Civil Affairs section to find a way out of the tribal conflicts in Darfur. ■

## UNAMID Head Urges Progress on Doha Document

On 23 September 2013 in Doha, Qatar, UNAMID's Joint Special Representative (JSR) and Joint Chief Mediator (JCM), Mr. Mohamed Ibn Chambas, attended the sixth meeting of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur (DDPD) Implementation Follow-up Commission (IFC). Mr. Chambas also attended, earlier the same day, the inaugural meeting of the Council for Reconstruction and Development in Darfur, which reviewed achievements in capacity-building and institutional development.

Both meetings were chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister of the State of Qatar, H.E. Ahmed bin Abdullah Al Mahmoud, and were attended by Sudanese Minister of State Amin Hassan Omer, Darfur Regional Authority Chair El Tigani Seisi and Mr. Osman Nahar of the Justice and Equality Movement - Sudan (JEM/Bashar).

In his opening remarks at the IFC meeting, Mr. Chambas told those in attendance that achiev-

ing substantial progress on the ground is critically important to the success of the peace process, as the DDPD had raised expectations. "The absence of such progress could lead to scepticism and diminishing faith in the Doha Document," he said, noting that the deteriorating security situation, increasingly marked by localised inter-tribal fighting in many parts of Darfur, could undermine the DDPD implementation and stall development programmes.

The JSR expressed satisfaction with the progress made in the area of justice, particularly with regard to the Special Court and the intention of the Special Prosecutor for Darfur to investigate the killing of the leader of JEM/Bashar and of seven UNAMID peacekeepers in Khor Abeche in July. He noted that more progress is required in the areas of justice, human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Mr. Chambas spoke of his hope that the consultations he held in Arusha with two non-sig-



On 23 September 2013 in Doha, Qatar, UNAMID's Joint Special Representative and Joint Chief Mediator, Mr. Mohamed Ibn Chambas (picture on the right), attended the sixth meeting of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur Implementation Follow-up Commission. Photo courtesy of Qatar.

natory movements "will lead to a more realistic outcome, which will bring an end to violence and usher in a stable environment and durable peace in the region and in Sudan as a whole."

The JSR reaffirmed UNAMID's commitment to the peace process in Darfur: "I can confirm to you that UNAMID will do everything within our capacity to facilitate and bolster the efforts

of this Council, the signatories to the DDPD and the implementing humanitarian agencies to make the Darfur development strategy real to the people of Darfur."

The JSR expressed his appreciation to the Government of Qatar for its "unwavering support to the peace efforts through its work as part of the Darfur mediation" and through hosting both meetings. ■

## Tripartite Meeting Focuses on Development, Security and Access

Discussions during the 16th meeting of the Tripartite Coordination Mechanism on UNAMID, held at UN headquarters in New York on 28 September 2013, focused on early recovery, reconstruction and Darfur's development needs, along with security and UNAMID's access to the areas most affected by conflict. The Tripartite Coordination Mechanism meetings, which include representatives from the Government of Sudan, the African Union and the United Nations, are designed to resolve issues and challenges related to UNAMID's operations.

During the meeting, AU

and UN representatives commended the commitment of Sudan in reaching a negotiated settlement to the conflict in Darfur and welcomed the efforts of the Joint Chief Mediator, Mr. Mohamed Ibn Chambas, for his recent engagement with non-signatory movements to revitalise the Darfur peace process within the framework of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur (DDPD).

The representatives expressed concern about the increased levels of insecurity affecting some parts of Darfur and the impact of this insecurity on Darfur's early recovery and development. In addition, the AU

and UN representatives called attention to the importance of unfettered access and freedom of movement for UNAMID to carry out its mandate, and urged Sudan to facilitate the timely issuance of visas for personnel.

Those attending the meeting discussed the Darfur development strategy through which Sudan is addressing the root causes of conflict, promoting stability and generating much-needed support for the peace process. In this regard, the participants agreed that additional ways should be explored on how UNAMID could contribute more toward Darfur's recovery and development.

The delegations were headed by Ambassador Rahmatalla Mohamed Osman, Under-Secretary of the Sudanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Mr. El-Ghassim Wane, Director for the AU Peace and Security Council; Mr. Hervé Ladsous, UN Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations; Mr. Anthony Banbury, UN Assistant Secretary-General for Field Support; and Mr. Mohamed Ibn Chambas, UNAMID's Joint Special Representative.

The next meeting of the Tripartite Coordination Mechanism is scheduled to take place in January 2014 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. ■

## UNAMID and Youth of Darfur Launch Peace Campaign



On 23 September 2013 in El Fasher, North Darfur, singer Sharif Al Feהל performs during an event to launch UNAMID's "We Need Peace Now" campaign. The event, organised by UNAMID and the National Sudanese Youth Union, drew thousands of people and served to commemorate the International Day of Peace. Photo by Albert González Farran, UNAMID.

On 23 September 2013, thousands of people gathered in the Al Zubair Stadium in El Fasher, North Darfur, to participate in the launch of UNAMID's "We Need Peace Now" campaign. The event, organised by UNAMID and the National Sudanese Youth Union, not only kicked off the new campaign but also served to commemorate the International Day of Peace. The event's

activities included a parade in the city centre, traditional performances and a music concert.

UNAMID Deputy Joint Special Representative Joseph Mutaboba urged the participants to start acting as ambassadors of peace. "Lasting peace in Darfur will not be achieved without your participation and commitment," he said. "Peace in Darfur is your hope for a brighter future;

peace in Darfur is your right."

Mr. Mutaboba went on to express his hope that the parties to the conflict and every peace-loving person in Darfur not only will listen to what the young people have to say but also will play an active role in restoring lasting peace in Darfur.

The Chair of North Darfur's Youth Union, Mr. Salih Ahmed Elshaikh, said that time had come for Darfur's young people to discard tribalism. "Young people are strong enough to build peace and achieve security and prosperity, and it is time to sit with the armed movements to discuss the issues of the homeland," he said.

UNAMID's "We Need Peace Now" campaign is designed to encourage young people to become committed participants in the peace process. In El Daein, East Darfur, some 50 young people participated in a seminar, organised by UNAMID as part of the same campaign, to raise awareness about fundamental principles of justice, equality and conflict prevention through collective participation.

Similar events are scheduled to take place in the coming months. ■

## Injured UNAMID Police Advisor Passes Away

A UNAMID Police Advisor who was seriously injured on 13 July 2013 when a patrol came under attack in Khor Abeche, South Darfur, died in the hospital on 30 September. The incident took place approximately 25 kilometres west of the Mission's Khor Abeche team site and resulted in the deaths of seven UNAMID military peacekeepers from Tanzania, in addition to the injury of 17 military and police personnel.

UNAMID Deputy Joint Special Representative Joseph Mutaboba expressed condolences to the bereaved family and friends of late Police Advisor. "This is a reminder to all of us of the sacrifices that uniformed peacekeepers make while carrying out their noble duty," he said. "In doing so, this peacekeeper paid the ultimate price and we commend his courage and commitment for his effort to make the world a better place, a safer place for us and our children in the future." ■