

SUDAN BULLETIN

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Embassy of the Republic of Sudan in Berlin / Germany
The most important events and developments during the month of July.

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Sudan agrees to keep positive contact with US Government at request of Saudi leadership

The President of the Republic, Omer Al-Bashir has commended the Sudanese-Saudi relations and described them as distinguished and strong. He expressed appreciation over efforts being exerted by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on serving Muslims, for its continued support to Sudan in all fields and for endeavors it made to



improve relations between Sudan and the United States. This came in the final communique issued at the end of the Sudanese-Saudi talks held in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The communique said that President Al-Bashir agreed at the Saudi leadership's request to continue positive contact with the American government and official institutions during the coming period until reaching permanent revocation of sanctions im-

posed on Sudan, removing Sudan from the list of terrorism-sponsoring countries and solving the pending problems between Sudan and US. It stated that the two sides underscored importance of countering terrorism, and extremism that poses the biggest threat to the peaceful societies Worldwide.

The communique said that the two sides affirmed commitment to all international resolutions concerning terrorism and extremism.

Lack of staff was the main cause for delaying Sudan sanctions relief: U.S. diplomat

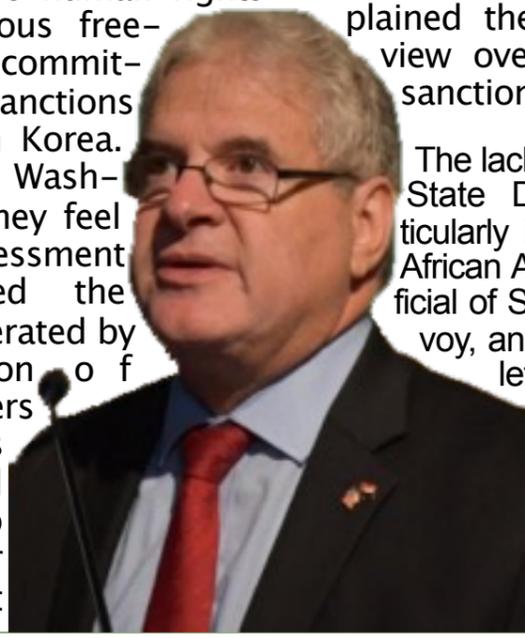
U.S. Chargé affairs to Khartoum Koutsis said on Monday said the slow pace of staffing process in the State Department was the main reason for the postponement of sanctions relief for Sudan. Ambassador Koutsis met with the Speaker of the National Assembly Ahmed Ibrahim Omer to brief him about the reasons behind the decision of President Donald Trump to delay the lift of economic sanctions on Sudan for three months. Ambassador Koutsis told reporters that the meeting discussed the implementation of the five tracks, human rights and religious freedom and the future of Darfur hybrid peacekeeping mission. He

further rejected accusations that his country delayed the lifting of the sanctions in accordance with a plan aimed at dividing the Sudan within the framework of the "New Middle East" plan. "We have heard many accusations and some analyses on the postponement of sanctions, but we invite you to take our word .. that the new US administration needs more time to discuss this file," he said. In a background briefing to the press on 12 July, U.S. officials members of the interagency assessment team said they need more time "to review Sudan's actions and to establish that the government has demonstrated sustained, positive actions across all the

areas (five tracks) that are set out in the executive order". They further said they want to discuss three matters that are not included in the five track framework agreement, pointing to Sudan's human rights record, religious freedom and its commitment to UN sanctions against North Korea. Observers in Washington said they feel that the assessment team realised the pressure generated by the intervention of 53 lawmakers and activists and preferred to leave no gap in their decision that

could open the door to more criticism.

According to the Spokesperson of the National Assembly Speaker Abdel Majed Haroun, the American diplomat explained the U.S. point of view over the delay of sanctions relief.

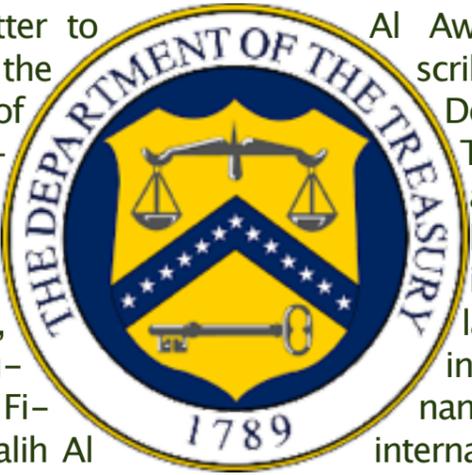


The lack of staffing in the State Department particularly in the Bureau of African Affairs and the official of Sudan special envoy, and the impact of a letter addressed to President Donald Trump by 53 Congressmen demanding to...

[more page 2](#)

Full Resumption of Financial Transactions with Sudan: US Treasury

The US Department of Treasury has sent a letter to Khartoum stating the full resumption of financial transactions between Sudan and international banks as of last Thursday, according to Sudan's Minister of Finance Mohamed Salih Al Rikabi. The Finance Minister,



who was interviewed by Asharq Al Awsat also described the US Department of Treasury letter as "significant breakthrough" in Sudan's relations with the international financial sector and international institutions such as the Interna-

tional Monetary Fund and the World Bank, foreign investors, as well as all Sudanese expatriates. The ministry would continue to deal with the regional and international financial institutions to attract foreign investments and achieve economic stability, Al Rikabi adds. Commenting on Washington's decision to delay the permanent lifting of economic sanctions, Al Rikabi said "despite dissatisfaction with the decision but it has achieved



significant gains regarding the international financial transactions". He added the new executive order didn't provide for additional restriction on President Obama's decision to ease the sanctions.

Ghandour: American Sanctions have Harmed Poorest Categories



The Foreign Minister, Prof. Ibrahim Ghandour, said that the American sanctions have affected the Sudanese citizen, harmed the poorest people in the country, including women and children and violated the right of the Sudanese people for development and getting clean water.

At a press conference he held Thursday at the Foreign Ministry, Prof. Ghandour pointed out that the decision of the US administration extending time of the sanctions on Sudan will encourage the armed movements to continue hostilities and obstinacy awaiting over-

throw and collapse of the government at any time. He said that the American decision will also lure the armed movements to refuse sitting for peace negotiations and to attempt to achieve a security breakthrough, calling on the wise elements on the armed movements to stick to wisdom and to work for achieving peace. He warned that the American sanctions also affected the peace and security process in Sudan and at the region.

The Foreign Minister affirmed that Sudan has fulfilled its commitments in the five tracks, depending on acknowledgement of the American side itself, adding that Sudan has been regarding these commitments as pure national agenda. On the dossier of peace in Sudan, Prof. Ghandour has affirmed Sudan commitment to cease-fire at the two areas unit next October as well as its readiness to continue the negotiations for realizing peace and stability, referring to stability of the situation in Darfur.

U.S. welcomes Sudan's decision to resume talks on sanctions relief



(WASHINGTON) - U.S. State Department Thursday has welcomed Khartoum decision to continue its participation in a joint committee over the permanent revocation of economic sanctions. In response to the delay of sanctions relief, Sudanese President Omer al-Bashir on 13 July decided to suspend the participation of his government in the joint committee until the 12 October, the date of the upcoming decision. However, following a visit to Riyadh on Tuesday 18 July where he met with the Saudi King Salman and the Crown Prince Mohamed Ibn Salman, the Sudanese president -in a joint communiqué- agreed to a Saudi request to continue the joint meetings with the U.S. official agencies for the permanent lift of economic embargo. "The United States welcomes the recent announcements by the Governments of Sudan and Saudi Arabia underscoring Sudan's commitment to sustain positive dialogue with the United States and to continue collective efforts to fight terrorism," said the State Department in a statement on Thursday. Washington explained its decision to postpone the lift of sanctions saying they need further to discuss with Khartoum, human rights, religious freedom and Sudan's commitments to the sanctions on North Korea. At the same time, it praised Khartoum cooperation on the counterterrorism and reiterated its commitment to the five tracks framework. Also on Wednesday, for the first time since 1993, the State Department applauded Khartoum cooperation in the fight against ISIS group adding it has stopped its support to Hamas and other terrorist groups. "As outlined in the 2016 U.S. Country Report on Terrorism issued July 19, the United States notes Sudan's improved counterterrorism efforts through enhanced interagency and international cooperation to address the threat from ISIS and other terrorist organizations, and its willingness to pursue counterterrorism operations alongside regional partners, including operations to counter threats to U.S. interests and personnel in Sudan," said the statement. The two countries have three months to address the three points put by Washington on the negotiating table, before the 12 October. Saudi Arabia pledged to continue its efforts to convince the President Donald Trump to repeal Sudan's sanctions, but it is not clear if he would be able to disregard the pressure of the Congress and activists.

Water Resources Ministry Signs Survey Contract for Using Solar Power Pumps

The Ministry of Water Resources, Irrigation and Electricity



signed an initial survey contract with the Newtech consultancy for the areas targeted by the project of the use of solar power pumps in the northern state. The Director of the Project on the Promotion of the use of solar power pumps, Eng. Abdel-Moneim Hassan Idris, said that preliminary surveys

in the northern state aimed at determining the social and economic indicators of the project, revealing that the study will be completed within (6) weeks from now. Idris pointed out that the first stage of the project has been witnessing installation of 28 experimental pumps while 1440 pumps are to be installed in the second phase and will be implemented during (4) years prior for the implementation of the project in the rest of the states, particularly in areas far away from the axis of the National Electricity Grid and island areas. Idris expected the project to make a quantum leap in the northern state to support the government trend to increase production. For his part, the Consultant



of the Study, Dr. Babikir Ibrahim, said that the project of using solar water pumps for irrigation was a new breakthrough for the agricultural sector in Sudan in terms of its cost and ease of its operating systems, explaining that the study aims at determining the economic and social levels of the project and conducting a comprehensive evaluation after the implementation phase.

Lack of staff was the main cause for delaying Sudan sanctions relief: U.S. diplomat

Continued from Page 1. the lift of sanctions an important role in the 11 July decision, said Haroun referring to the conversation between the Speaker and the US. Diplomat.

The bipartisan group of U.S. lawmakers urged the President to delay the lift of sanctions for one year until "your Administration has been able to fully staff the Department of State and National Security Council, and you have named a Special Envoy for Sudan and South Sudan," they said in a letter sent on 30 June.

The parliamentary spokesperson underscored that the Congress had been lobbied by advocacy groups.

"The Speaker of the Parliament expressed the disappointment of Sudanese people over the delay of this decision. He said he is looking forward to a decision that enables the Sudanese and American peoples to exercise their normal lives and benefit from each other's capabilities and engage in a positive relationship," Haroun said. He added that Omer welcomed the joint steps that have been achieved and urged all parties to work together in the coming period so that they

can meet the commitments that constitute the goals of joint action. Last March, the Speaker of the National Assembly visited the United States where he met with government officials and Congressmen to convince them to support the lift of sanctions.

Also, a day before the decision to delay the lift of sanctions, Omer called to not react negatively in case that President Trump for any reason does not approve the lift of sanction and to keep up the efforts to persuade Washington to repeal the sanctions.

US Charge: Relations to continue to develop whether or not sanctions are lifted

The US government will continue to work with Sudan to realize important developments whether or not the US government decides to lift sanctions or not, according to U.S. Chargé d’Affaires Steven Koutsis. This came after an agreement was signed between the United States, through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), on Tuesday with DAL Food to provide locally sourced, pasteurized milk to 5,308 malnourished school children in Red Sea State, as part of a public-private partnership to improve education and nutrition through dairy distribution



DAL Dairy Factory has supported Sudan’s School Milk Program since 2011 by providing 17,000 underprivileged students in the greater Khartoum area with daily servings of long-life milk. USAID’s alliance with DAL has expanded this successful model to provide milk to primary school children in Red Sea State Malnutrition hinders children from achieving their potential in school and can have lifelong negative consequences. In Red Sea State, global acute malnutrition — measured by the mid-upper arm circumference — was recorded at 47 percent. This is well above the 15 percent maximum threshold that indicates a critical situation. This USAID-DAL Food alliance is an example of the increasingly common public-private partnerships designed to assist underprivileged communities

“The American people want to address the underlying causes of poverty and marginalization in Sudan, and by partnering with the private sector, we will be far more effective if we can bring our combined skills and resources to the effort,” said USAID Mission Director Dr. Jeffrey Ashley. “The U.S. Government affirms its continuing commitment to work with DAL Group and other like-minded business colleagues to alleviate poverty and support economic development in Sudan,” said U.S. Chargé d’Affaires Steven Koutsis. “The spirit of this partnership project, providing a daily source of critical nutrition to school children, reflects the ongoing support of the American people for the people of Sudan. The United States is the largest donor of food assistance to Sudan.

Sudan government opens new corridor for delivery of humanitarian assistance to South Sudan



The government of Sudan on Monday signed a memorandum of understanding with the government of south Sudan for the extension of humanitarian relief delivery to civilians in south Sudan. The representative of the Sudan Humanitarian Commission, signed for the Sudan and the south Sudan ambassador to Khartoum signed for his country. The agreement was on the delivery of 90,000 metric tons of humanitarian assistance to South Sudan, extending for one year. Commissioner Ahmed Mohamed Adam signed for the Sudan and ambassador Mayan Dot signed for South Sudan. The commissioner has pointed out in press that the MOU comes within

the context of the government of the Sudan to support South Sudan for the delivery of relief to the civilian population inside South Sudan. He said the Sudan has kept on renewal of this agreement with the Sudan and with south Sudan and the United Nations every six months since 2014. He said the agreement will help the UN World Food Programme deliver food to south Sudan and reduced the cost of shipment. He said this time the agreement is made for one full year in place of the regular six months in the past and at the same time opens three corridors in addition the Blue Nile corridor. The commissioner commended the efforts of the world community and the donors in the delivery of relief to the affected population in south Sudan. It is to be noted that some 83 thousand metric tons have been shipped to the south up to the current month of July providing assistance to hundreds of thousands of civilians in south Sudan. The commissioner pointed out that Sudan also hosts over 800 thousands southern refugees who fled their country to Sudan's border state and other inner states of the Sudan.

Al-Gaz, Ambassador of China discuss development of Sudan-China relations in field of medicines

The Deputy Chair of the High Committee for Super-Vising Sudan Relations with



BRICS countries, Dr Awad Ahmed Al-Gaz discussed in Khartoum, Thursday, with the Chinese Ambassador to Sudan, Li Lian, relations between Sudan and China and Ways of boosting them further as well as bolstering ties of cooperation in all fields, especially in medical field. The Ambassador of China

said in press statements following the meeting which was attended by Shanghai Company which operating in pharmaceutical and health materials production, that the Shanghai Company plays important and

effective role in meeting Sudan's needs for medicines. He pointed out that the meeting sought ways of development of cooperation between Sudan and China in field of medicines and health materials, indicating to importance of cooperation of the two countries in this field.

Ethiopian Pilgrims, Goods to Move Easy Through Sudanese Ports

Red Sea Governor Ali Ahmed Hamed said in press statements after the meeting that they discussed the proposals of the Red Sea state to transport Ethiopian pilgrims through Port Sudan. Vice President of the Republic, Hasbu Mohammed Abdul Rahman, called on the concerned authorities to facilitate the movement of Ethiopian pilgrims and goods through the Sudanese ports. This came during the Ethiopian Sudanese joint committee meeting at the presidential palace which he is heading. He also stressed the need to deal



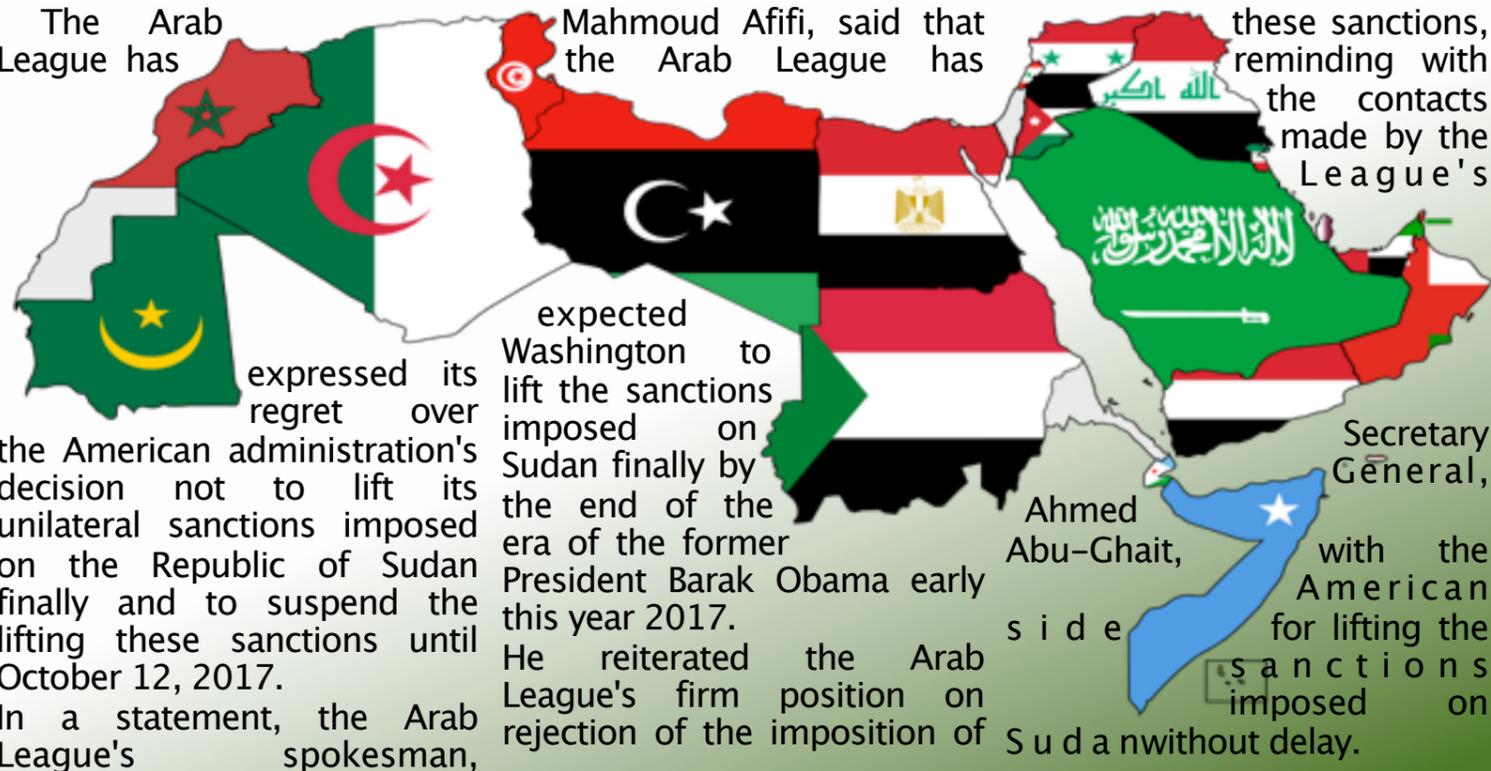
the procedures of the export and import along with transit fees on highways and development of economic relations in the light of the agreements signed between the two countries. Red Sea Governor Ali Ahmed Hamed said in press statements after the meeting that they discussed the proposals of the Red Sea state to transport Ethiopian pilgrims through Port Sudan. The meeting discussed the arrangements that help to strengthen the economic relations between Sudan and Ethiopia, especially in transport.

Arab League Regrets US Administration's Refuse to Lift Sanctions Imposed on Sudan

The Arab League has expressed its regret over the American administration's decision not to lift its unilateral sanctions imposed on the Republic of Sudan finally and to suspend the lifting these sanctions until October 12, 2017. In a statement, the Arab League's spokesman,

Mahmoud Afifi, said that the Arab League has expected Washington to lift the sanctions imposed on Sudan finally by the end of the era of the former President Barak Obama early this year 2017. He reiterated the Arab League's firm position on rejection of the imposition of

these sanctions, reminding with the contacts made by the League's Secretary General, Ahmed Abu-Ghait, with the American side for lifting the sanctions imposed on Sudan without delay.



African Union Calls on Trump to Lift Sudan Sanctions

President of the African Union Commission, Moussa Faki Mohamed, called on US President Donald Trump to completely lift the economic sanctions imposed on Sudan. A source at the AU Commission told the SMC that the Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union addressed Trump and expressed the disappointment of the African Union in the decision to delay the lifting sanctions on Sudan, and demanded the need to raise them in that it affects the Sudanese people directly. A source explained that the AU told President Trump that the Sudanese government had dealt positively with all matters, stressing that it has fulfilled its promises and commitments. He said sanctions should be lifted because they affect on the stability of Sudan, the people of Sudan and the entire region.



President Bashir says government keen to preserve peaceful religious coexistence in the country



The President of the Republic, Omar Al Bashir, on Sunday reaffirmed the keenness of the Sudanese government to further strengthen religious coexistence in the country and to protect religious freedoms in a way that

achieve religious security and stability in the country. The President who received at the presidential Guests House, the visiting archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, stressed the peaceful coexistence that prevails even within the one family that comprises Muslims and Christians, living side by side in harmony. The president has stressed that no christian establishment, church or institutions, were ever attacked in the Sudan, matter that underlines the peaceful coexistence in the country. The president welcomed the visit of the highest angelican clergy official to the sudan, expressing hope that this would not be an impetus to the relations between two churches but also between the Sudan and the UK as well. Welby who is leading a delegation of the Canterbury bishops

from different parts of the world to the inauguration of Anglican Church which will be an independent national church carrying number 39 worldwide, said he held a 50 minute long meeting with the Sudanese head of state centering on his concern for provision of assistance to the poor and disposed people. He commanded the way Sudan hosts refugees and said he talked with President Omar Bashir on the policy of his country, the UK, which encourages the "end of (economic) sanctions" on the Sudan. Sudan is under economic sanctions for now 23 years. The Minister for Orientation and Endowment, Abu Bakar Osman Ibrahim, has meanwhile said the archbishop has installed the Sudanese Bishop Hezgiel Kindah in Kadogle, Nuba Mountains of South Kordufan.

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