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The most important events and developments during the month of December 2019

Editor: Mortada Mahadi

Al-Burhan: Army made the change and will protct it



Khartoum, Dec.1 (SUNA) - The Head of the Transitional Sovereignty Council, General Commander of the Armed Forces, lit. General, Abdul Fatah Al-Burhan, on Sunday, renewed the Army's commitment to

protect September Revolution until its goals. Al-Burhan addressing the officers, non-commissioned officers and soldiers, in Wadi Sidna Military Area in the presence of the Chief of Staff and his deputies and a number of leaders of the armed forces, said the army made the change and will protect it, saluting, the army men who martyred for the homeland.

Al-Burhan pledged to provide all the needs of the armed forces, affirming the growing concern of the leadership over the army personnel to enable them to perform their tasks effectively. IF/IF

The United States to Elevate Diplomatic Representation with Sudan

Khartoum, 4-12-2019 (SUNA)- Sudan And the United states of America have decided to elevate their diplomatic representation to ambassadorial level, up from charge d'affaires that was the norm for the last twenty three years. Michael R. Pompeo, the US Secretary of State issued a statement on Wednesday saying the Department of State



warmly welcomes Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok on his first visit to the United

states of America. "Today, we are pleased to announce that the United States and Sudan have decided to initiate the process of exchanging ambassadors after a 23-year gap." The statement said. It added that this decision was a meaningful step forward in strengthening the U.S.-Sudan bilateral relationship, particularly as the civilianled transitional government works to implement the vast reforms under the political agreement and constitutional declaration of August 17, 2019. The statement said since his August 21 appointment, Prime Minister Hamdok has led Sudan's transitional government, installed a civilian cabinet, and made key personnel changes to break with the policies and practices of the previous regime. It said the prime minister has demonstrated a commitment to peace negotiations with armed opposition groups, established a commission of inquiry to investigate violence against protestors, and committed to holding democratic elections at the end of the 39-month transition period. "The United States remains a steadfast partner of the Sudanese people and their pursuit of peace, security, prosperity, democracy, and equality." The statement said. Ma/Ma

Khartoum, Dec. 8 (SUNA) - Prime Minister, Dr. Abdalla Hamdok, announced that Khartoum will host for the first time the meeting of the Friends of Sudan in the coming period, explaining that this meeting is a partnership and will helps to lay down new bases of understanding on issues and working together. At a press conference he held Sunday at Khartoum Airport upon his return from the United States, Dr. Hamdok said that the goals of his visit to the United States included improving the relations between the two countries, lifting sanctions and writing off the

Hamdok: Friends of Sudan will Meet in Khartoum for the First Time



debts, indicating that the issue of debt exemption is linked to the.. More On Page 2

Framework Agreement to Deliver Humanitarian Aid Signed in Juba



Juba, Dec. 17 (SUNA) - The government and the People's Movement -Aggar

faction Tuesday evening signed at Palm Africa in Juba a framework agreement to deliver humanitarian aid.

The mediator and Advisor of South Sudan President, Tut Galwak, said that the parties reached full agreement on the humanitarian issue and the cessation of hostilities between the government and the Revolutionary Front was renewed.

He pointed to the continuation of the negotiations in a good manner between the parties in the various tracks to present a model in the peace process. MO

Khartoum Dec. 1 (SUNA)-Foreign Minister (FM) Isma Mohamed Abdallah received Sunday at her office in the ministry a copy of the credentials of lei Yang Guiyang as a credited ambassador for South Korea to Sudan. The ambassador expressed pleasure for being selected as an ambassador for his country to Sudan saying he would spare no efforts to strengthen relations between the two countries. He adds that they intended to open means of cooperation in various



FM Receives Credentials of Korean Ambassador

aspects particularly offering 30 training chances to train officials working with government. Later on he said they would also offer training chances for empowering women in recognition for their big role in making the positive change in Sudan. For her part the foreign minister praised the relations between the two countries saying her ministry is looking forward to promote bilateral relations and she thanks South Korea for availing training chances for women. AA



Merian Hagan: It is Time to Help and Support Sudan Economically

Khartoum, Dec. 11 (SUNA) – The State Minister at the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Merian Hagan, has praised the struggle of the Sudanese people for achieving their revolution by setting an example through its sacrifices, its desire to sacrifice and its commitment for a lasting change. During her address, Wednesday, to the meeting of the Sudan's Friends Group in Khartoum, she said that it is the time for the Sudan's friends to contribute to its assistance and economic support, noting the special feature that distinguished the Sudanese revolution and the innovative nature of the revolution's details. She pointed to the great role played by the youth and women, which was reflected on their commitment to the privacy of the Sudanese values based on equality, political pluralism and the rule of law as values that spread around the world. Merian Hagan has indicated the great achievements of the Sudanese government during the first three months, represented in the reforms, comprehensive sector review, review of all legisla-



tion, fighting corruption, and its affirmation of the depth of Sudan's relations with all other countries, indicating its admiration for the role played by the Prime Minister in confirming the depth of Sudanese relations with neighboring countries. She pointed out that the appointment of Sudan as the IGAD president reflects the recognition by IGAD countries of the positive changes that have assigned Sudan for this important achievement. Moreover, she stressed on the important role of the Prime Minister in opening a positive dialogue between the United States government and the Sudan to remove its name from the list of state sponsors of terrorism, noting that the agreement of the Sovereignty and the Council of Ministers and the understanding to work together is a new matter, stressing that the democratic nature of the transitional arrangements will not be complete until the establishment of the Legislative Council, indicating that is the only way to present the democratic nature of the revolution. TA

K H A R T O U M (Sudanow) – Direct talks kicked off on Wednesday between the Sudanese government delegation and representatives of the armed movements, sponsored by the Inter-governmental authority for Development (IGAD), and brokered by the government of South Sudan, with strong impetus from the Western countries, including the Friends of the Sudan. The delegations from the two sides arrived in Juba on Tuesday, with the armed movements convening a preparatory meeting prior to the face to face meeting of Wednesday. Both the economic power of the Troika, USA, Norway and UK, have stressed that the success of these talks will be critical in Sudan's journey towards ensuring lasting peace.



Peace Talks Kick Off In Juba With Strong European And Western Support

"The United States, the United Kingdom, and Norway (the Troika) welcome the resumption of these talks. It is our sincere hope that all interested stakeholders will join these talks and show a renewed spirit of cooperation, pragmatism, and realism to ensure these negotiations succeed. This is what the people of Sudan expect and

from the changes ushered in by the creation of a civilian led transitional government.

"It is vital that all sides demonstrate the political will to work together, and engage productively, to find solutions to outstanding issues. If they do so they will have the support of the Troika," the release said.. More on www.sudanembassy.de

deserve," the Troika said in a statement on Wednesday. They pinpointed that for too long, internal conflict was waged at the expense of Sudan's most vulnerable people and that only a lasting peace will ensure that the humanitarian and security needs of those in the areas affected by the conflicts can be met and for those marginalized areas to benefit

UNIDO Praises Sudan Cooperation with Private Sector

Khartoum Dec.15 (SUNA)– UNIDO manager of Sudan Office Dr. Mohamed Sayed Abdel Momein praised ministry of industry and trade cooperation for developing Sudanese private sector. In his address on the occasion of the international day for manufacturing in Africa under slogan "Developing African industry to support the continental free zone trade," Dr. Momein highlights that the cooperation of governmental institutions with private sector was the same approach that has been adopted by UNIDO aimed at implementing the objectives of development on the ground. He stresses that Sudan has strategic location amongst African countries. Dr. Momein pointed out that



industry is considered the backbone of development as it creates big opportunities of job. Moreover Dr. Momein urges for analyzing competition capacity of countries that contributed in setting up competition strategies in the field of industry. He reminded the importance of policies supporting industry and observing competition. For his part manager of regional and international organizations department in the ministry of industry and trade, Nadir AL Rayh affirmed Sudan concern on Industrial sector through set-ting up clear cut strategies. AL Rayh called for industrial quality products and gets benefit from value added for competi-tion at regional and international markets. AA

Hamdok: Friends of Sudan will Meet in Khartoum for the First Time

Continued from Page 1, lifting of sanctions will help Sudan enter into new partnerships with the international community and enabling the country to cross an era of safety.

He The Prime Minister stated that Sudan is seeking to reach an acceptable agreement with the US administration on the issue of compensations to protect the Sudanese state from any claims or other ensuing issues prior to the lifting of sanctions. MO

Arman: Framework Agreement to Deliver Humanitarian Aid Reflects Spirit of Partnership



Juba, Dec. 17 (SUNA) – The People's Movement – North, led by Malik Aggar, has considered the signing of the framework agreement for addressing the humanitarian issues in South Kordofan and the Blue Nile as an important one and reflects the spirit of the revolution and partnership and paves the way for agreement on other issues.

The delegations of the government and the People's Movement – Aggar faction signed on Tuesday evening a framework deal to deliver humanitarian aid to the citizens in South Kordofan and the Blue Nile. In a press statement, deputy leader of the People's Movement – North, Aggar Faction, Yasser Arman, said that they felt the seriousness, stating that the agreement shall put an end to the suffering of citizens at the areas held by the government. He said that the agreement is ending to the hegemony of the former regime and its policies that were harmful

to citizens. Arman indicated that, according to the agreement, a joint committee will be formed to assess humanitarian needs, provide aid, open the crossings, and define paths to convey the humanitarian needs of those affected by war in the two areas. He said that the agreement provides for the establishment of mechanisms to monitor and implement the cessation of hostilities in the areas controlled by the movement in South Kordofan, the Nuba Mountains and the Blue Nile. According to Arman, a timetable has been set for the implementation of the agreement after one week, adding that there will be committees in Khartoum and Kadogli for the implementation. He said that the agreement includes the affected farmers and herdsman and ensures the freedom of movement from the areas held by the movement and the government. MO

Humanitarian Aid in S. Kordofan ready to Receive Returnees



Khartoum, Dec. 17 (SUNA) – Major General Ibrahim Jaber, a member of the Transitional Sovereign Council, has affirmed that the state is in the process of reviewing investment laws and issuing a new law that encourages the flow of investment to the country, referring to the importance of controlling the foreign presence in the country. He told journalists, Tuesday, in the Republican Palace that agriculture represents the country's only way out of the current economic crisis, indicating to the existence of economic threats that must be addressed, top of which, is the high rate of unemployment and smuggling of goods across borders. Jaber pointed out that the government continues to support strategic commodities such as wheat, fuel, and life-saving medicines despite the high cost of these commodities globally. IF/IF

Merghani Affirms the Needs for Scientific Research in Food Safety



Khartoum Dec. 4 (SUNA) – Undersecretary for economic research in the ministry of finance Maki Merghani affirmed the needs for scientific research in food chains safety. Merghani called for benefiting from the experience of international institutions such as EU on issues related to food safety standard pointing out to the importance of food control that imported from abroad particularly that Sudan spends lot of money for importing imputes used in human food and fodder. In his address before the thinking Meeting entitled "Safety Food granting Productive Citizen" launched Wednesday at

ministry of finance premises, Merghani said "it is importance to establish institutions to complete food safety and implementing health standard relevance to food processing that effect other sectors such as, health, water and education." For his part head of the administration for public planning and polices, Dr. Abdel Atti Jabir told the Meeting attendees that this thinking meeting launches in the context of macroeconomic policy linked to sustainable development program suggested in the annual budget of the year 2020.. AA

Hajo: Next stage is peace and reconstruction



Khartoum, Dec. 4 (SUNA) – Chairman of the Legislative Council of the Revolutionary Front, Tom Hajo said that the next stage is peace, and reconstruction, calling on all to mobilize efforts to push forward the peace process. "The issue of peace is a matter of procedures, but, as a decision, we are practicing peace now," he told reporters, Wednesday. Hajo reiterated that the RF inaugurated the National Peace Commission and started to form peace committees. He revealed that a complementary delegation of justice and Equality will arrive in the country next Saturday. IF/IF

STO Calls for Speeding up Formation of Corruption Commission

Khartoum Dec. 11 (SUNA) – Head of Sudanese Transparency Organization (STO) Dr. AL Tayeb Mukhtar has called for speeding up the formation of corruption commission and endorsement of its related law. Dr. Mukhtar presented at SUNA forum Wednesday the national honesty system of the STO. He said the improvement of Sudan indicator on corruption issues requires a continuous political will besides establishing legal supportive centers. Moreover, he said that judiciary must remain independent as well as prosecution. In addition, he stresses the importance of reactivating monitoring



systems. Dr. Mukhtar urged for the importance that the government has to adopt strategy of alleviating poverty. As well he urged for formation of legislative council with ignorance to quotas. He also stresses the importance of maintain peace and improving relations with the international community. On other development Mukhtar called government to directly supervised sovereign exports, combating smuggling, preventing foreigners from practicing export activities on sovereign commodities and freezing export of Gum Arabic to countries and companies imposing sanctions on Sudan. AA

Sudanese scholars, dignitaries, civil society leaders sent open Letter to president Trump

Khartoum, 1-12-2019 (SUNA) – Senior Sudanese scholars, university professors, academics, trade unionists, human rights activists and leaders from the Forces for Freedom and Change, have written an open letter to the American President Donald Trump, the US secretary of the State and member of the US congress calling for removing the name of Sudan from the list of countries the US considers sponsors of international terrorism. The dignitaries and society leaders pleaded that a wrongdoing carried by the deposed dictatorship should not result in the punishment of the people who dethrone that dictator.

The signatories who grouped intellectual, academic, civic, political and private sector actors and members of civil society organizations said they “urge the swift removal of Sudan from designation as a ‘state sponsor of terror’ (SSoT).” “Sudan is at a crossroads: after extraordinary action by its people to topple the despotic and ideologically motivated regime of Omar Al Bashir there is finally an opportunity for the

country to emerge from thirty years of conflict, oppression, economic mismanagement and isolation into a democratic era of peace and prosperity.” The open letter added that the overwhelming majority of Sudanese, however, have a conviction that the current course of peaceful change is irreversible.

“The SSoT designation puts an unjust economic and political burden on the shoulder on a government that is working in extraordinary conditions to establish democracy, peace, justice and stability in an exhausted country.

We believe it is also against the US's own interests.” It concluded that as former President Jimmy Carter has urged, “President Donald Trump's administration should work with Congress to remove Sudan from the SSoT list immediately and give democracy there a chance”. The full text of the letter is published by Sudanow at <http://sudanow-magazine.net>. MA/MA



Silica Sand Is Window Of Opportunity For Sudan

KHARTOUM (Sudanow) – One of the bounties with which Sudan is endowed is silica sand, a mineral now gaining a lot attention from foreign investors.

Silica sand (or quartz sand) are white sandy rocks containing a high rate of silica dioxide (SiO₂), in addition to a few impurities and heavy metals.

Silicon extracted from silica sand is used in the manufacturing of glass and furnaces. These two industries consume 80% of the World's output of silicon that amounts to 120 million tons.

Other silica uses include the manufacturing of surfaces, household appliances, car glass, decoration glass and glass plates of different measurements and sizes. It is also used in the manufacturing of computers, smart phones, TV sets, solar panels, transistors, isotopes and in defense industries and other apparatuses and industrial substances on which advanced technology depends.

Silica sand is available in different areas of Sudan, in particular in the semi-desert parts of the country.

Experts maintain that Sudan's silica sands are the best in Africa whereby the rate of silicon in it amounts to over 90%.

Sudan's verified silica sand reserve amounts to over 3 billion tons.

In 2018 Sudan concluded a tentative agreement with a German company to

export the worth of \$2 billion silica sand.

But experts advised the treatment of this sand chemically and physically before exporting it by way of obtaining an added value because the price per one ton of silica foam ranges between 1000-2000 US

foreign currency.

Writing in Altayyar daily newspaper of Sunday, Ibrahim said he had been raising the issue of manufacturing products from silica dioxide (SiO₂) inside Sudan since 2003 and had made the proposal to officials of the defunct regime who he noted were running after their own interests and were disinterested in improvement of the country's economy.

It was the first Sudanese businessman Khalil Osman who utilized silica and established a glass factory from silica, although it used a simple technique for producing a simple kind of glass, said the columnist, adding that at present there is a single glass plant of an international standard in the country.

He added that Silica gel and precipitated silica can also be produced locally and exported to bring in the hard currency that is badly needed by the Sudan.

The price of the silica products is six-fold higher than that of petroleum, Ibrahim noted, urging the transitional government to probe this field.

But this idea requires the provision of modern technologies, a technical and operation administration, trained cadres and basic services needed by the investors. YH/AS



Sands dunes in northern Sudan, Meroe pyramids site

Dollars on the international market, while the price of raw silica sand is a humble 50-300 Dollars per ton.

In addition, the local processing of this sand can open up job opportunities for the citizens and help develop the areas where it exists. Columnist Jalal al-Dinn Mohamed Ibrahim has suggested a solution to the Sudanese economy by using the abundantly available silica, crystal-clear white sand, for manufacturing a number of products for export to earn considerable proceeds of

Khartoum,
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(S U N A) –

Meetings of the Arab States Broadcasting Union (ASBU) committees commenced here at Carinthia hotel as part of celebrations of the Union's golden jubilee and convocation of its general assembly in Khartoum, December 5-13 as the financial and administrative committee held its 77th meeting. Head of the Committee, Luei Alawi said in a press statement that the committee discussed a number of axes top of which were recommendations of technical committees , revenues and budgets to be submitted the general conference. He stressed

Meetings of ASBU Committees Begin in Khartoum



that the committees comprise members with high scientific and professional experiences and playing significant role in development of Arab media through ASBU services, praising the Arab media in covering incidents with high professionalism. Alawi commended the distinguished presence of member states and Sudan representing in its government and generous people. He extended condolences in the name of Palestinian State to families of victims of Khartoum North's factory fire which left a number of persons dead. AB/.