

July 21, 2014

Weekly Report Brief

Sudan ... armed conflicts and environmental risks

Arab Coalition for Sudan

Cairo, Follow Up

Fifty percent of the Sudanese people lives below the poverty line, which amounts to 15 million of Sudanese citizens; says the scaring statistics declared by United Nations. Yet that is natural due to the internal wars plaguing across the country. The state budget has become a war budget, whereas expenditure of security alone represents more than 50% of the whole budget, and the repercussions of the conflict led to homelessness, displacement, high cost of living, downtime in agricultural areas; not to mention the spread of corruption at the highest levels.

More than $\frac{1}{4}$ of the Sudanese below the poverty line lives in Khartoum, the capital, under difficult conditions due to rising prices and decline of governmental support and assistance.

70% of the Sudanese— according to AlJazeera Net— are suffering of difficulties in obtaining their basic needs such as water, food, education and medication. Statistics says that health service cover only 40% of the Sudanese population, in addition to the shortage in life saving drugs. Experts say that poverty has expanded dramatically, due to the deteriorating economy, rising prices and decline in the value of the Sudanese pound. Almost seven million people in Sudan needs urgent aid after the influx of refugees from the conflicts areas in Darfur and South Sudan State, according to United Nations, 6.9 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance, roughly 20 percent of Sudan's population.

African Union—United Nations Joint Special Representative (JSR) for Darfur and Chief mediator, Mohamed Ibn Chambas, called on the the African Union Peace and Security Council (AUPSC) to recommend to the UN Security Council an extension of the mandate of UNAMID for another year, amid criticisms on UNAMID performance by Darfuri armed movements accusing it of being prejudice in favor of the Sudanese authorities, particularly after the accusations that trailed it, in the wake of a statement issued by the former spokesperson of the mission *Aicha* Elbasri recently.

Meanwhile, the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) spokesperson said that the report of the (JSR) Ibn Chambas lacks credibility and confirms what was said by international parties as turning a blind eye to some of the actions of the militias of the Sudanese government, adding the (UNAMID) reports run counter to the truth, and keep a blind eye to the government aerial bombardment during the entire year, which is still going on, as well as the violations and crimes by Rapid Support Forces (RSF). He also said, the (JSR) Mohamed Ibn Chambas talks about the halt of fighting between the main parties , implicitly deny what was done

by government-affiliated militias in eastern Jebel Marra and areas in north and south Darfur along with the governmental bombardment.

The spokesperson of (JEM) called on the UN Security Council to carry out an assessment and evaluation process about the performance of the «UNAMID» mission, and said that his movement supports the demands issued by the international parties about the need to investigate the work of the joint mission in Darfur, as well as its reports to the UN Security Council.