



Security Council

Distr.: General
12 October 2011

Original: English

Report of the Secretary-General on the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur

I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to paragraph 13 of Security Council resolution 2003 (2011), by which the Council requested me to report every 90 days on progress made towards implementing the mandate of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID). The report includes an assessment of progress made against the benchmarks set out in annex II to my report to the Council of 16 November 2009 (S/2009/592) and of the status of the political process and the security and humanitarian situations from 1 July to 30 September 2011. Pursuant to paragraph 8 of resolution 2003 (2011), the report also includes an assessment of the enabling environment for a Darfur-based political process.

II. Political developments

Doha Document for Peace in Darfur

2. The Government of the Sudan and the Liberation and Justice Movement signed the Agreement on the adoption of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur on 14 July. The Doha Document contains provisions that comprehensively address the causes of the conflict in Darfur. During the signing ceremony, which was hosted by the Government of Qatar, the signatories pledged to implement the Doha Document faithfully and called upon other armed movements to sign it. The Government of the Sudan set a time limit of three months for the parties to do so. Following additional negotiations, the Government of the Sudan and the Liberation and Justice Movement signed the Protocol on the Political Participation of the Liberation and Justice Movement and Integration of Its Forces on 16 July. The Protocol provides for the allocation of political appointments to Liberation and Justice Movement personnel, including national and state ministerial posts, positions in the Darfur Regional Authority and one state governorship, as well as the integration of Liberation and Justice Movement fighters in the Sudanese regular armed forces.

3. In his capacity as Joint Chief Mediator ad interim, the African Union-United Nations Joint Special Representative for Darfur, Ibrahim Gambari, together with the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of Qatar, met with members of the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) on 7 August to ascertain the Movement's readiness to



resume negotiations with the Government. In response to the JEM delegation's interest in resuming talks provided that all chapters of the Doha Document were open for negotiation, the delegation of the Government of the Sudan maintained that only the matter of political and military appointments could be discussed. As a consequence, talks did not resume.

4. After the signing of the Agreement on the adoption of the Doha Document, UNAMID began assisting with its implementation. On 22 August, under the chairmanship of the UNAMID Force Commander, Lieutenant General Patrick Nyamvumba, the inaugural meeting of the Ceasefire Commission was convened in El Fasher. The Commission met twice more, on 8 and 19 September, also in El Fasher; the participants discussed the disposition of their forces and pledged to submit all information required to begin implementation of the final security arrangements. These arrangements include provision for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration; the integration of forces; civilian arms control measures; and security sector reform.

5. UNAMID also held extensive consultations with a range of international partners on its plans to support the implementation process. In this context, the representatives of the League of Arab States indicated an interest in assisting UNAMID, in conjunction with the Government of the Sudan, with the development of 12 model villages in Darfur, each with a capacity to receive up to 25,000 returnees.

6. In meetings with UNAMID on 24 and 25 July, the governors of the three Darfur states expressed their support for the implementation of the Doha Document. In addition, the state governments entered into several local agreements with breakaway opposition movements. On 21 August, the South Darfur state government signed an agreement with the Redemption Movement, a coalition of the five breakaway factions of Sudan Liberation Army (SLA)-Abdul Wahid, SLA-Minni Minawi, JEM and two other, smaller movements. A similar agreement was signed with the United Sudanese Movement on 9 August. On 14 and 20 July, the North Darfur state government reached local peace agreements with the Contemporary Generation Front and the Bedouin and Routes Alliance Movement. According to the agreements, each of these small splinter groups will support the implementation of the Doha Document and measures to enhance security.

7. An advance delegation of 21 members of the Liberation and Justice Movement, led by the Vice-Chair of the Movement, Ahmed Abdul Shafie, returned from Doha to the Sudan on 7 September. In Khartoum, the delegation met with Government officials, representatives of the National Congress Party, opposition political parties and civil society organizations. The delegation and the Government of the Sudan reached agreement on the establishment of joint technical committees to assist with the implementation of the Doha Document provisions relating to the release of political prisoners and the establishment of the Darfur Regional Authority.

8. A delegation of the Liberation and Justice Movement visited Nyala from 18 to 21 September, El Geneina and Zalingei from 21 to 24 September and El Fasher from 24 to 27 September. In its meetings with senior Government officials, civil society representatives, internally displaced persons and political party members, the delegation emphasized the importance of establishing a credible Darfur Regional Authority, participatory government and an inclusive Doha Document implementation process.

9. On 11 September, the Government of Qatar convened the inaugural meeting of the Implementation Follow-up Commission in Doha. The Commission was

established to monitor, assess and support the implementation of the Doha Document. Participants included Burkina Faso, Canada, Chad, China, Egypt, France, Japan, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, the African Union, the European Union and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation. The participants deliberated on the situation in Darfur, the status of implementation of the Doha Document and its financial and logistical requirements. The Commission, which is to meet quarterly, reiterated that the Doha Document serves as the basis for reaching a comprehensive political settlement to the Darfur conflict and called upon other movements to join the peace process without delay.

10. In accordance with the Protocol on the Political Participation of the Liberation and Justice Movement and Integration of Its Forces, on 13 September, President Bashir issued a decree appointing Al Haj Adam Youssef, a Darfuri, to the post of Second Vice-President of the Republic of the Sudan and, on 21 September, he issued a decree appointing Eltigani Seisi to the post of Chair of the Darfur Regional Authority. On 27 August, a presidential decree promulgated the establishment of a Darfur Peace Follow-Up Office led by the Government's Chief Negotiator in Doha, Amin Omar. The Liberation and Justice Movement submitted to President Bashir its list of nominees for the ministerial posts allocated to it in the Protocol.

11. In conjunction with civil society representatives, UNAMID prepared a plan for the dissemination of information on the Doha Document across Darfur. The plan provides for the dissemination to commence in late October, with UNAMID providing technical and logistical support.

Development of a road map for the Darfur peace process

12. Pursuant to paragraph 9 of resolution 2003 (2011), the United Nations Secretariat, in conjunction with the African Union Commission, Sudanese stakeholders and members of the Implementation Follow-up Commission, has been developing a new road map for the Darfur peace process. A joint African Union-United Nations workshop on future steps in the Darfur peace process was held in Addis Ababa on 17 and 18 July. As a result of the workshop and an initial round of consultations held with Sudanese stakeholders and members of the Implementation Follow-up Commission, it became evident that additional consultations were needed in the months ahead to develop a road map that is comprehensive and enjoys broad-based support. A retreat of special envoys will be held in El Geneina on 19 October for this purpose.

13. Based on consultations conducted to date, emerging elements of the road map include the need for (a) support for the implementation of the Doha Document; (b) continued engagement with the Government and other movements, including JEM, SLA-Abdul Wahid and SLA-Minni Minawi, with a view to reaching a cessation of hostilities and a comprehensive settlement of the conflict on the basis of the Doha Document; (c) support for internal dialogue and consultations; and (d) strengthened coordination mechanisms with international partners acting in support of the peace process. It is expected that the road map will be completed by the end of the year and included in my next report to the Security Council.

Darfur-based political process

14. In its resolution 2003 (2011), the Security Council outlined the requirements for a credible Darfur-based political process and requested regular assessment reports. As outlined in further detail in section V of the present report, which pertains to the protection of political and civil rights in Darfur, there was a decrease in the number of reports of arbitrary detentions, while the number of other human rights violations and abuses, in particular with respect to freedom of movement, speech and assembly, remained relatively unchanged.

15. The prevailing security situation in Darfur, including military activity and criminality, remains volatile. As in previous years, open hostilities in Darfur subsided with the start of the rainy season. The state of alliances between armed movements within and outside Darfur has shifted, and the movements that remain outside the peace process have adopted more combative rhetoric (see paras. 18 and 19 below).

16. The foregoing observations notwithstanding, UNAMID, within the framework of its mandate, held regular workshops and consultations with representatives of civil society, local government and other stakeholders on, inter alia, safety and security, reconciliation, welfare, livelihoods and the peace process, without major incident or hindrance by either the Government or armed movements.

17. With regard to the conduct of a Darfur-based internal dialogue, a common understanding of the concept of the Darfur-based political process and how it will be conducted has yet to be reached. Against this backdrop, UNAMID intends to seek the views of Darfuri stakeholders on their expectations concerning the peace process. This is to take place within the context of the dissemination of the Doha Document, which is expected to stimulate discussion about the Darfur peace process and the role of internal dialogue and consultations.

Movement divisions and alliances

18. On 7 August, SLA-Abdul Wahid, SLA-Minni Minawi and the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement (SPLM)-North signed an alliance agreement in Kaoda, South Kordofan. In the agreement, the movements called for, inter alia, a state that accommodates the cultural, religious and ethnic diversity of the people of the Sudan based on the principles of freedom, rule of law and citizenship. The movements also agreed to work towards unifying Sudanese political forces to overthrow the National Congress Party-led Government.

19. Since 11 September, several media sources have reported that the leader of JEM, Khalil Ibrahim, has claimed to have returned to Darfur. On 25 September, a JEM spokesperson issued a statement announcing the dismissal of Mohamed Bahr Ali Hamdeen as deputy chair of the Movement and head of the JEM delegation to the Doha negotiations. The Movement issued an additional statement on 27 September outlining the outcomes of a meeting of its executive body, reportedly held on 23 September and chaired by Khalil Ibrahim, which led to several new military appointments replacing Bahr and his supporters. The media subsequently reported that Khalil Ibrahim was endeavouring to coordinate with other armed groups to overthrow the National Congress Party-led regime. Members of JEM allegedly representing field commanders led by Bahr issued a statement on 28 September criticizing the leadership style and integrity of Khalil Ibrahim and, in meetings with UNAMID,

expressed an interest in entering into negotiations with the Government, using the Doha Document as a basis for discussions.

III. Security situation

20. Reports of direct clashes between Government forces and armed movements decreased. The number of recorded fatalities resulting from clashes between Government and movement forces declined from 1,039 in 2010 to 342 thus far in 2011.

21. Tensions nevertheless remained high in areas where there was fighting between the Sudanese Armed Forces and armed movement forces at the start of 2011, including in and around the Shangil Tobaya and Dar al Salam areas in North Darfur, Khor Abeche in South Darfur and Jebel Marra, where Government and armed movement forces continued to manoeuvre and clash sporadically. On 17 July, the Sudanese Armed Forces conducted air operations around the village of Abu Hamara (west of Khor Abeche) in South Darfur, reportedly targeting armed movement forces. UNAMID confirmed that 10 bombs had been dropped, causing damage to several houses and livestock. No reports of casualties were received.

22. On 23 and 24 July, the Sudanese Armed Forces clashed with opposition fighters in the Jebel Moon area (80 km north of El Geneina). Owing to movement restrictions, UNAMID was unable to confirm casualties.

23. In West Darfur, an unidentified group ambushed a Sudanese Armed Forces convoy between Umker and Tanako on 28 August. Local interlocutors reported to UNAMID that four to six Sudanese Armed Forces soldiers had been killed and eight injured in the attack. On 8 September, an armed group and tribal militia ambushed a Government police convoy consisting of 40 vehicles, 35 km north-west of Kass, leaving 17 policemen dead and approximately 40 injured. The Government responded by deploying additional troops to the area.

24. A UNAMID patrol confirmed that on 20 September, the Sudanese Armed Forces and armed movement forces clashed between the villages of Tangara and Sharaf (20 km north of Shangil Tobaya). Although local interlocutors reported casualties, the number varied greatly and could not be confirmed. On 21 September, a Sudanese Armed Forces helicopter fired two rockets 10 km north of Khor Abeche. UNAMID verification patrols did not receive any reports of casualties.

Inter-communal conflict

25. Two incidences of inter-communal fighting that resulted in fatalities were recorded. On 2 September, Saada and Rezeigat groups clashed along the Nyala-Kass road, allegedly in response to the carjacking on 28 August of a vehicle carrying Rezeigat tribesmen. The incident resulted in four Saada dead and three Rezeigat injured. The second incident occurred between a nomadic group and farmers in Tamaru (25 km north-east of Saraf Umra) on 22 September following a dispute over camels grazing on cultivated land. Three farmers and two nomads were killed in the clash. On 20 September, a dispute arose between a nomadic group and local farmers over land access in Karima (19 km south of Korma). While no casualties were reported, farmers seized 49 camels belonging to the nomads. UNAMID convened a

meeting of the concerned parties and community leaders to facilitate a resolution of the conflict and oversaw the transfer of the stolen camels to Government police.

26. In West Darfur, cases of crop destruction by nomads led to increased tension between farmers and nomadic herders in several areas. In addition, many localities (including Sirba, Krenek, Forobaranga, Tabarik, Aish-Bara, Dargal, Mournei and Masteri) witnessed disputes relating to land tenure as returnees from Chad were perceived by the communities to be contributing to crop destruction. On 3 August and 7 September, UNAMID held meetings with the Deputy Sultan of the Dar Massalit, who is also Chair of the Darfur Peace and Reconciliation Council, in El Geneina to explore ways of alleviating the tension. As a result, the Deputy Sultan and UNAMID began working with local crop protection committees. In a related development, the joint Sudan-Chad Reconciliation Committee, tasked with maintaining peaceful coexistence among tribes inhabiting the border area, informed UNAMID on 22 September that disputes over crop destruction in the Kulbus area had been resolved amicably through the use of traditional conflict resolution methods.

27. The government of North Darfur hosted a peaceful coexistence forum in El Fasher on 24 and 25 July, which was attended by more than 600 participants, including government officials, academics and representatives of various Darfuri communities. The participants deliberated on the root causes of conflict, with a focus on environmental challenges, relations between farmers and pastoralists and the role of local conflict resolution mechanisms.

28. UNAMID monitored areas of increased tension and worked with the Darfur Peace and Reconciliation Council and Native Administration, thereby providing support to traditional reconciliation mechanisms and enhancing their capacity to resolve conflict. Recorded fatalities as a result of inter-communal clashes significantly decreased in Darfur, from 882 in 2010 to 90 thus far in 2011.

Restrictions of movement

29. UNAMID military and police components carried out 21,288 patrols between 1 July and 30 September. In view of the mission's patrolling posture and efforts to resolve restrictions of movement through a newly formed subcommittee comprising UNAMID and Government security entities, restrictions on UNAMID patrols declined by almost 50 per cent, from 68 restrictions in the previous reporting period to 35 during the current period, which amounts to fewer than 1 per cent of the total patrols. While UNAMID carried out 5,024 flights between 1 July and 30 September, the Sudanese Armed Forces and other Government officials refused 131 flight clearance requests. The vast majority of restrictions occurred in areas where the Government believed armed movements to be present.

Security and safety

30. There were two armed attacks on peacekeepers during the reporting period. On 22 July, two peacekeepers were injured in an ambush by unidentified armed men between the Ardamata and Dorti camps for internally displaced persons, near El Geneina. On 5 August, a UNAMID patrol was ambushed while returning from the village of Duma (37 km north-east of Nyala). The driver was shot dead and a second peacekeeper was injured.

31. On 31 July, unidentified gunmen broke into the residence of and killed a staff member of a national non-governmental organization in Foroaranga (160 km from south El Geneina), West Darfur. On 10 August, three armed men attacked a commercial truck carrying World Food Programme (WFP) provisions from El Obeid to Nyala, killing a truck attendant. On 14 August, four unidentified armed men abducted an international staff member of an international non-governmental organization in Nyala. To date, the staff member remains in captivity. On 15 August, an international non-governmental organization convoy travelling from Nyala to Gereida to deliver medical equipment was looted approximately 15 km south of Labado.

32. Measures implemented by UNAMID to mitigate the risk of carjacking contributed to a decrease in the number of incidents, from 45 in 2010 to 22 thus far in 2011. During the reporting period, a total of nine vehicles were seized from UNAMID and non-governmental organization staff. Four vehicles belonging to UNAMID were subsequently recovered.

IV. Humanitarian situation

33. During the reporting period, humanitarian agencies experienced access restrictions that hampered their ability to reach populations in need of assistance in the Dar al Salam area in North Darfur, where Government authorities imposed restrictions on the delivery of medical supplies, fuel and other assistance to people displaced from Shangil Tobaya earlier in the year. In addition, on 16 August, the Humanitarian Aid Commission issued a directive stopping the activities of Peace Platform, a national non-governmental organization and implementing partner of WFP, and accusing it of engaging in activities inconsistent with its mandate.

34. However, access improved in West Jebel Marra where, between 7 and 14 August, an inter-agency mission led by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, with security provided by UNAMID, visited the villages of Golo, Killin, Sarong and Golol. Needs assessments were carried out and relief materials, including medicine, food and non-food items, were distributed.

35. On 17 August, UNAMID and partner agencies concluded the first phase of "Operation Spring Basket". During the operation, which began on 1 May, they gained access to 13 remote and isolated areas across the three states of Darfur, and 10 humanitarian assessment and aid delivery missions were conducted. Humanitarian supplies, including non-food items, shelter materials, food, vaccines and other medical supplies were delivered to communities in areas that, in some cases, had been inaccessible for six months.

36. Heavy seasonal rains caused flooding in parts of Darfur, particularly in North Darfur, resulting in the destruction of houses and schools and the erosion of farmland. Humanitarian agencies provided assistance to affected communities, with WFP distributing rainy season non-food items to 76,366 affected households.

37. With a view to assessing and responding to humanitarian needs, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs led an inter-agency mission to Abu Zerega on 18 August, during which it verified that approximately 5,000 internally displaced persons had been displaced to the area from Shangil Tobaya following clashes between the Sudanese Armed Forces and SLM-Minni Minawi forces earlier in the

year. In addition, in North and South Darfur humanitarian agencies verified the displacement of civilians from the villages of Abu Hamra, Linda and Umm Daraisiya (near the border between North and South Darfur) to Al Malam, Manawashi and Mershing in South Darfur. An assessment carried out from 12 to 17 July confirmed the arrival of 890 people in Al Malam, 450 in Manawashi and 1,385 in Mershing.

38. The voluntary return of internally displaced persons and refugees to their places of origin, in particular from camps in South Darfur and Chad to villages in West Darfur, continued. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has verified the voluntary return of 13,307 refugees and 46,560 internally displaced persons since the beginning of 2011. It is not yet clear whether those who returned during the cultivation season are sustained rather than seasonal returnees. Where requested, UNAMID provided logistical and security support to humanitarian agencies assisting returnees, including to 230 internally displaced person households, who returned from Aramba (17 km north of Kabkibiya) to Sereh Ajanna (15 km north-west of Kutum) in North Darfur between 10 and 15 July. The humanitarian situation inside camps in Darfur remained relatively stable.

39. During a force reserve exercise, UNAMID conducted a medical outreach campaign called "Haboob Chase II" in Gurra Farjawi (40 km north-west of Kabkabiya), Kuma (120 km north-east of El Fasher) and Dar al Salam (50 km east of Shangil Tobaya), North Darfur, from 16 to 23 August. The exercise brought together medical and paramedical personnel from UNAMID, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Ministry of Health of North Darfur state, who examined and treated a total of 1,766 people. On 24 August, UNAMID airlifted vaccines from Khartoum to El Fasher as part of an ongoing effort to support the three-month livestock vaccination campaign of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Ministry of Animal Resources. Also in August, the Mission assisted humanitarian agencies by transporting 1,200 kg of medical supplies from El Fasher to Saraf Umra (North Darfur).

V. Rule of law, governance and human rights

40. During the reporting period, the number of incidents and victims of human rights violations and abuses recorded by UNAMID remained relatively unchanged, with 77 incidents involving 142 victims recorded, compared to 79 incidents involving 274 victims in the previous period. UNAMID documented 20 cases of alleged arbitrary arrests and detention, involving 32 victims, including four students in El Geneina, West Darfur, in July, allegedly in connection with the distribution of anti-Government leaflets.

41. Violations of the freedom of association and expression also continued to be reported. On 20 July, UNAMID was informed of the arrest, by the National Intelligence and Security Service, of an SPLM-North official and one office guard from the SPLM-North offices in Nyala, South Darfur. Officials of the Service allegedly confiscated office files and equipment and vehicles during the incident. The official was released later the same day without charge and the guard was released on 21 July. In El Geneina, 10 alleged SPLM-North members were arrested between 3 and 12 September, including two women (one a former Member of State Parliament). Six were released on the same day, three on 12 September and the former Member of State Parliament on 26 September, all without charge.

42. On 3 September, one UNAMID staff member was arrested by the National Intelligence and Security Service in El Fasher, also on the grounds that he was allegedly a member of SPLM-North. UNAMID visited the staff member in detention on 5 September and found him to be in good health. A note verbale was sent to the Government of the Sudan protesting the arrest and, on 9 October, the staff member was released without charge.

43. On 14 July, two of the four internally displaced person leaders detained by the National Intelligence and Security Service since 2 August 2009 in connection with the murder of an Omda (community leader) in Abu Shouk camp were released without charge. On 28 August, the Governor of South Darfur announced an amnesty in celebration of the Eid al-Fitr festival, which allowed the five sheikhs and one women's leader who had been sheltering at the UNAMID community policing centre at the Kalma internally displaced person camp to return home. The sheikhs and women's leader had been at the centre availing themselves of the protection of UNAMID since an outbreak of violence in Kalma camp in July 2010. Although several of the sheikhs returned to their residences in Kalma camp, the camp remained calm and the sheikhs were not harmed. In general, there were fewer incidents involving instability inside camps in Darfur in this reporting period than in preceding periods.

44. UNAMID continued to receive reports of sexual and gender-based violence, recording 15 incidents involving 31 victims. Together with the Zalingei Women's Union, UNAMID organized a seminar on 11 and 12 July for 37 female representatives of the state government, the Sudanese Armed Forces and civil society. During the seminar, a subcommittee on women and peace and security was established to work with the government on increasing the level of participation of women in decision-making, enhancing the protection of women and children from sexual and gender-based violence and addressing the protection needs of female ex-combatants.

45. UNAMID continued its activities to undertake and support capacity-building on the rule of law and human rights protection for prosecutors, judges and lawyers, women representatives of internally displaced persons, military intelligence officers and prison staff. The activities focused on women's rights, international fair trial standards, sexual and gender-based violence, juvenile justice, national laws and international human rights standards. A total of 416 officials from the Sudanese Armed Forces and military intelligence received training on pretrial rights and the right to a fair trial in Zalingei and El Geneina, West Darfur. In coordination with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNAMID organized training on international fair trial standards, sexual and gender-based violence and juvenile justice for 24 prosecutors and lawyers from several localities in South Darfur. It also organized a workshop on, inter alia, international human rights law and women's rights for rural court judges in Malha, North Darfur.

46. UNAMID undertook a series of capacity-building activities on prison records management for 50 prison staff (including 10 women) in Ardamata and Zalingei prisons in West Darfur. The UNAMID police component conducted training for 400 community policing volunteers (including 200 women) to enhance their effectiveness in community policing.

47. On 11 July, UNAMID and UNDP organized an event for the female inmates of Nyala Central Prison to raise awareness about their rights and responsibilities and promote interaction with non-inmates. On 18 July, a similar event was organized in

Nyala to sensitize female inmates with regard to their rights, discuss sexual and gender-based violence issues and raise awareness about HIV/AIDS.

Child protection

48. On 13 August, the leader of SLA-Historical Leadership, a relatively small breakaway faction of SLA-Abdul Wahid, issued a command order prohibiting all members of his forces from recruiting or using child soldiers, attacking schools and committing sexual violence. On 18 August, UNAMID met with SLA-Free Will commanders to follow up on the implementation of their action plan to address the recruitment and use of child soldiers. The commanders committed to submitting a final report signalling the full implementation of the plan.

VI. Protection of civilians

49. UNAMID continued to collaborate with specialized protection agencies on the implementation of its strategy on the protection of civilians. Recorded protection incidents decreased from an average of 10 per day in 2010 to 6 per day since 1 January 2011.

50. In addition, UNAMID worked with UNHCR to provide security and assistance to internally displaced persons and returnees by continuing to patrol internally displaced person camps, returnee villages and humanitarian convoys delivering assistance to returnees. The relative stability of West Darfur appears to be contributing to the return of Sudanese refugees from Chad to villages in West Darfur. Within the framework of the returnee and reintegration working group, UNHCR has been verifying the voluntary nature of those returns.

VII. Deployment and operations of the mission

51. As at 30 September, the strength of UNAMID civilian personnel stood at 4,521, of whom 1,134 were international staff, 2,907 were national staff and 480 were United Nations Volunteers. This represents 86 per cent of the approved strength of 5,285. Owing to the harsh living conditions and unpredictable security situation in Darfur, the recruitment and retention of suitably qualified staff remains problematic.

52. As at 30 September, the strength of UNAMID military personnel stood at 18,003, representing 92 per cent of the authorized strength of 19,555. This figure includes 17,473 troops, 286 staff officers, 62 liaison officers and 182 military observers. The deployment of an additional infantry battalion, multirole logistics unit and medium rotary-wing utility unit is expected by the end of the year. Shortfalls remain with respect to two medium rotary-wing utility aviation units and a fixed-wing air reconnaissance unit.

53. As at 30 September, the personnel strength of UNAMID police stood at 2,944 (82 per cent men and 18 per cent women), representing 78 per cent of the authorized strength of 3,772. With regard to formed police units, 16 out of the 19 units authorized have been deployed, which represents 2,231, or 84 per cent, of the authorized strength of 2,660.

54. UNAMID military personnel conducted a total of 10,561 patrols, including 5,006 routine patrols, 1,080 short-range patrols, 580 long-range patrols, 1,411 night patrols, 332 humanitarian escorts and 2,152 logistics and administrative patrols. UNAMID police conducted a total of 10,727 patrols. Of those, 5,962 were conducted inside camps with groups consisting mainly of women and children leaving villages and camps to collect firewood and grass, 2,962 were conducted in and around villages and markets, and 1,803 were medium- and long-range patrols.

55. The readiness and self-sustainment capabilities of military contingents deployed in Darfur continued to be of concern. Of the 54 units currently deployed, only 18, or 28 per cent, fully comply with the agreed stipulations on the deployment of equipment contained in memorandums of understanding. Currently, a total of 10 units from eight countries (four infantry battalions and six formed police units) have significant equipment shortfalls and serviceability rates below the mandated 90 per cent. The inadequate predeployment health screening and vaccination of contingent members, military observers and police officers is contributing to the repatriation on medical grounds of an average of seven uniformed mission personnel per month.

56. Between 1 July and 30 September, the Government of the Sudan issued 939 new entry visas to UNAMID personnel. As at 30 September, 1,058 applications for visas were pending, 600 of which were for civilian police officers, 153 for military staff officers and observers and 305 for civilian personnel. UNAMID continues to engage with Government officials on the expeditious processing of outstanding visa requests.

57. The construction of an additional 11 UNAMID team sites was completed during the reporting period, bringing the total number of completed sites to 23. Another seven team sites are scheduled for completion before the end of 2011. As at 31 August, the construction of a total of 19 community policing centres had been completed, with work on another five ongoing. The construction of seven other team sites and additional community policing centres continues to be delayed owing to difficulties associated with acquiring land.

58. Since the last report, five additional water boreholes have been drilled, bringing the total number of wells completed since the deployment of UNAMID to 41. Of these, 31 are currently being shared with adjacent local communities.

59. A radio bridging solution was initiated on 1 July. Al Salam Radio allocates two hours daily to UNAMID for the broadcast of its “Yala Nabni Darfur” (“Let’s Build Darfur”) programme. The programmes comprised discussions and interviews concerning the activities and mandate of UNAMID, as well as cultural shows showcasing local artists.

60. Following the decision by the Government of the Sudan to take over the former United Nations Mission in the Sudan (UNMIS) logistics base in El Obeid, UNAMID, which had also made use of the facility, withdrew its personnel and assets from the base on 25 August. Alternative arrangements were made to relocate the offices and personnel to Khartoum. With the withdrawal of UNMIS, the Government also instructed UNAMID to vacate the United Nations-built terminal at the Khartoum airport. Discussions between UNAMID, the Sudan Civil Aviation Authority and Khartoum International Airport management on the relocation of UNAMID air movement operations from the terminal to pre-existing Khartoum airport facilities by the end of December are ongoing. UNAMID also held discussions with Government authorities about resuming the operations of four

grounded Nizhnevartovskavia helicopters transferred from UNMIS to UNAMID and one contracted IL-76 cargo aircraft.

61. Thirty-six quick-impact projects were completed during the reporting period. A total of 285 projects are currently at various stages of completion, with 36 of these expected to be completed by the end of the year. Twenty-three new project proposals were approved, and implementation is planned to commence in October.

62. UNAMID continued to help reduce the threat posed by unexploded ordnance in Darfur. This involved locating and destroying over 434 ordnance items, assessing 54 km of road and delivering UXO risk-awareness training to 73,287 beneficiaries. The Mission assessed a total of 48,657 m² of land as safe for use and a total of 2,454 km of road as open for access.

63. In July, the Sudan Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission, assisted by UNAMID, demobilized 188 ex-combatants belonging to SLM-Mother Wing and SLM-Free Will (including 13 women and 3 disabled persons) in North Darfur. During the same exercise, 212 personnel from the Sudanese Armed Forces and Popular Defence Forces were discharged (including 13 women and 5 disabled persons). UNAMID supported these activities by providing technical advice, logistical support, medical equipment and HIV/AIDS counselling. On 13 September, the Sudan Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission, in collaboration with the West Darfur Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission, UNICEF and UNAMID, launched a demobilization campaign in El Geneina. Approximately 350 ex-combatant minors from JEM-Wing for Peace, SLA-Mustafa Terab and the Liberation and Reform Movement are expected to undergo demobilization as part of the campaign.

64. To increase the capacity of mission personnel to enhance child protection, UNAMID held 54 training sessions on child rights and child protection issues for 674 peacekeepers, 980 United Nations police officers and 268 civilians. UNAMID also delivered 16 training sessions to national counterparts, including 68 Sudanese Armed Forces personnel, 81 Government police and 419 civilians.

65. The eleventh meeting of the tripartite coordination mechanism was held in New York on 24 September. Participants welcomed efforts undertaken to address restrictions of movement in Darfur and progress made in the implementation of the Doha Document. The next meeting is scheduled to be held in Khartoum in January 2012.

VIII. Progress against mission benchmarks

66. Pursuant to paragraph 13 of resolution 2003 (2011), the present report includes an assessment of progress against the benchmarks set out in annex II to the report of the Secretary-General of 16 November 2009 (S/2009/592).

67. With regard to the first benchmark, some progress has been made towards achieving a comprehensive political solution to the conflict in Darfur. Following the signing of the Agreement on the adoption of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur by the Government of the Sudan and the Liberation and Justice Movement, UNAMID worked with the signatory parties to transition from negotiations to implementation. The Ceasefire Commission was established and the Implementation Follow-up Commission met for the first time. Several leaders of the Liberation and Justice Movement returned to the Sudan to initiate implementation, with the

remainder expected to return in the near future. UNAMID continued to encourage the Government and JEM to resume negotiations and engaged other armed movements with a view to persuading them to join the peace process. Progress was made in the development of a new road map for the Darfur peace process that aims to bring about a comprehensive solution to the conflict and achieve this benchmark.

68. The second benchmark relates to the restoration of a stable and secure environment throughout Darfur. During the reporting period, there was a reduction in fighting between Government and armed movement forces. The incidence of inter-communal fighting remained low. The number of criminal activities and attacks on humanitarian convoys and UNAMID decreased. These developments are viewed as progress against this benchmark. The progress could be partly attributed to seasonal rains and the observance of the holy month of Ramadan.

69. The third benchmark refers to the enhancement of the rule of law, governance and the protection of human rights. The human rights situation in Darfur remained relatively unchanged, in particular with regard to sexual and gender-based violence. UNAMID continued to provide support to various rule of law institutions to help them to perform their functions more effectively, and delivered training in human rights subjects to government officials and civil society. Modest progress was made against this benchmark.

70. The fourth benchmark pertains to stabilizing the humanitarian situation and facilitating humanitarian access to populations in need of assistance. While humanitarian agencies and UNAMID experienced some restrictions, efforts to reach vulnerable populations continued. In eastern and western Jebel Marra, where access had previously been limited, UNAMID and humanitarian agencies successfully conducted needs assessments and delivered aid. Fewer civilians were displaced by fighting during this reporting period than the preceding period, and the trend of internally displaced persons and refugees returning to their places of origin at a rate of approximately 1,500 households per month continued. Overall, the humanitarian situation in Darfur remained relatively stable and there was neither significant progress nor regression against this benchmark.

IX. Observations

71. The signing by the Government of the Sudan and the Liberation and Justice Movement of the Agreement on the adoption of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur constitutes an important step forward in the Darfur peace process. I commend the parties to the agreement, the Government of Qatar and the former African Union-United Nations Joint Chief Mediator, Djibrill Bassolé, on this achievement. The faithful implementation of the Agreement offers a means through which many underlying causes of conflict in Darfur can be resolved. Its success will ultimately depend on the willingness of the signatory parties to abide by its provisions. Equally, the parties that remain outside the peace process must be convinced that the interests of the Darfuri population are best served by their full and unreserved participation in the process.

72. The steps taken by the Government and the Liberation and Justice Movement, assisted by UNAMID and international partners, to begin the implementation of the Doha Document are encouraging. These include the Government of the Sudan establishing the Darfur Peace Follow-up Office and appointing Darfuris to the posts

of Second Vice-President of the Republic and Head of the Darfur Regional Authority. For its part, a delegation of the Liberation and Justice Movement arrived in the Sudan and held extensive engagements with Government officials, political parties and civil society, which helped to broaden popular understanding of and support for the Agreement.

73. The holding of the inaugural meeting of the Implementation Follow-up Commission and the support pledged by international partners for the implementation of the Doha Document is welcome. The commencement of the work of the Ceasefire Commission is also welcome and, in this connection, I urge the signatories to fully implement the ceasefire and security arrangements provided for in the Agreement in accordance with the agreed schedule. The support of the international community for the work of the Ceasefire Commission, including through the provision of non-military logistics support and technical assistance to enable the members of the Commission to effectively discharge their duties, will be necessary.

74. With a view to providing peace dividends in the form of tangible improvements to the lives of the people of Darfur and encouraging hold-out movements to enter into negotiations with the Government of the Sudan on the basis of the Doha Document, I urge the Government and the Liberation and Justice Movement to faithfully implement all other aspects of the Agreement. This would entail, inter alia, establishing the National Human Rights Commission, the Reparation and Compensation Commission, the Land Commission, the Truth and Reconciliation Committee and the Darfur Reconstruction and Development Fund.

75. The success of the Doha Document will also depend on the level of support it receives from the people of Darfur. Enhancing ownership of the Document and its implementation through internal dialogue and popular consultations will be crucial in the quest for durable peace, stability and prosperity in Darfur. To this end, the mission will continue to assist the parties to the agreement with the dissemination of information about the Document.

76. Notwithstanding the progress made in the peace process, significant challenges lie ahead. While open hostilities in Darfur subsided with the start of the rainy season, I remain gravely concerned by the belligerent postures of SLA-Minni Minawi, SLA-Abdul Wahid and JEM. The announcement of the creation of an alliance between Darfur movements and SPLM-North and their stated objective of regime change, coupled with the movements' continuing ability to launch military offensives, risks causing a re-escalation of the conflict and is a source of considerable concern.

77. In this connection, Joint Special Representative Gambari, as Joint Chief Mediator ad interim, will continue to work in cooperation with the Government of Qatar to encourage JEM, SLA-Minni Minawi and SLA-Abdul Wahid, to enter into negotiations with the Government of the Sudan. I call upon the international community to complement these efforts by delivering consistent messages aimed at convincing the movements that have not yet joined the peace process to do so now. Further, I reiterate my call to all hold-out groups to join the peace process immediately and without preconditions.

78. Meanwhile, consultations continue between the United Nations and the African Union, and with Sudanese stakeholders and international partners, on the development of a road map for lasting peace in Darfur. The road map will offer a

means through which to coordinate initiatives and assign roles and responsibilities, especially with respect to the African Union and the United Nations. In my next report on UNAMID, I intend to provide the Security Council with a comprehensive and inclusive report on the finalized road map for peace in Darfur, as requested in paragraph 9 of resolution 2003 (2011).

79. During the reporting period, UNAMID continued to undertake its core mandated activities, which remain vital for the protection of civilians and the facilitation of the safe and timely delivery of humanitarian assistance. The mission continued to take proactive measures to enhance the security environment through the maintenance of a robust posture and by supporting traditional conflict resolution and reconciliation initiatives. In this regard, the low incidence of inter-communal fighting is encouraging.

80. Sporadic fighting in parts of Darfur and the prevailing tension between the Government and armed movements continues to create humanitarian and protection challenges. While the number of access restrictions declined, it is important to highlight that most of the restrictions were imposed in areas of general insecurity and military activities. I reiterate my call to the Government and armed movements to cease hostilities immediately and to allow unrestricted access to UNAMID and humanitarian actors.

81. The risks posed by the prevailing insecurity in Darfur to United Nations and humanitarian workers remain of great concern. I am deeply saddened by the loss of a fellow peacekeeper killed in an ambush in early August. I am also deeply concerned about the welfare of an international non-governmental organization staff member who was abducted on 14 August and remains in captivity. I trust that the Government of the Sudan will spare no effort to secure his speedy and safe release and bring the perpetrators to justice.

82. In this context, I am encouraged by the mission conducted by UNAMID and the humanitarian community to West Jebel Marra, which delivered aid to communities hitherto inaccessible. It will be important to sustain and build upon the opening of humanitarian space accomplished under "Operation Spring Basket", which since its launch in May has opened access to 13 locations where access had previously been limited.

83. In conclusion, I would like to thank Joint Special Representative Ibrahim Gambari and all the women and men of UNAMID and the humanitarian community, who continue to work tirelessly on advancing peace, stability and prosperity in Darfur.