



## **African Union – United Nations Mission in Darfur**

---

### **COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC INFORMATION DIVISION**

**UNAMID Info Note, 03/04/2009**

#### **INFORMATION NOTE**

#### **AFRICAN UNION HIGH LEVEL PANEL ON DARFUR ARRIVES IN NORTH DARFUR**

*El Fasher, 3 April 2009* – The African Union High Level Panel on Darfur (AUPD) arrived in El Fasher, North Darfur, today to meet with the leadership of the United Nations-African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) and senior Government officials in the region.

The Panel – led by former South African President Thabo Mbeki and also comprising former Burundian President Pierre Buyoya and former Nigerian President Gen. Abdulsalami Abubakar – was received by UNAMID Joint Special Representative, Mr. Rodolphe Adada, and the Wali (Governor) of North Darfur, Mr. Othman Kibir, upon arrival at El Fasher airport.

AUPD members later held a meeting with the Wali and other senior state Government officials. They were briefed on the security and humanitarian situation in North Darfur as well as efforts undertaken by both the state and national Government in resolving the conflict in Darfur.

Mr. Kibir indicated that the only way to solve the situation in Darfur was through negotiation and to include all Darfurians in the process. The panelists were also briefed on humanitarian issues and the latest developments regarded internally displaced persons (IDPs).

Mr. Mbeki outlined that the purpose of the visit is to interact with the Sudanese people with a view to determining what more can be done to achieve peace, justice and reconciliation.

The AUPD visited Abu Shouk camp for IDPs, where the panelists held a brief meeting with the leaders of the camp, and were briefed on the security and humanitarian situation in the camp.

The AU panel also met with the Civil Society Organizations in North Darfur and discussed ways of resolving the Darfur conflict and last month's expulsion of the Non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

\*\*\*\*\*

---

#### **UNAMID Communication and Public Information Division Media Contacts**

Kemal Saïki, Director; [saiki@un.org](mailto:saiki@un.org) – tel.: +249 (0) 92 244 3529; mobile: +249 (0) 92 241 0020

Noureddine Mezni, Spokesperson; [n.mezni@un.org](mailto:n.mezni@un.org) – Mobile: +249 (0) 91 274 276 -+249 (0) 91 253 8420

Josephine C. Guerrero, Media Relations; [guerreroj@un.org](mailto:guerreroj@un.org) – tel.: +249 (0) 92 244 6188; mobile: +249 (0) 91 253 8390

Maj Ahmed Salah, Military Public Information officer; [unamid-military-pio1@un.org](mailto:unamid-military-pio1@un.org), tel.: +249 (0) 92 244 6234;

**Email: [unamid-publicinformation@un.org](mailto:unamid-publicinformation@un.org) - Web site: [www.unamid.unmissions.org](http://www.unamid.unmissions.org)**