

Waging Peace

Building a safe and democratic world

2009 - Happy New Year!

Updates on Darfur, UNAMID's failures and Deportation of Asylum Seeker Stopped

OPINION PIECE ON UNAMID BY WP FOUNDER: 'Peacekeeping can never be an exact science. However, as Darfur's suffering continues a year on from the deployment of the much-lauded hybrid United Nations African Mission in Darfur (UNAMID), it is time for the UN to reflect on why this particular experiment has gone so very wrong.' To continue reading this opinion piece on the failure of UNAMID by WP founder Rebecca Tinsley published in the Guardian, log onto: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2009/jan/01/darfur>

DARFUR: In late December a UNAMID peacekeeper was injured when children living in an IDP camp threw rocks at UNAMID forces. A couple of days later another peacekeeper was shot in the leg following a carjacking. In yet another display of a lack of respect and regard for the UNAMID force, several armed men hijacked three peacekeepers. One peacekeeper was shot in the attack and was rushed to hospital. He was then evacuated to a hospital in Khartoum for further treatment. Although the identity of the armed men is unknown it is generally agreed that they are unlikely to be from any rebel faction, as rebels do not control that area. The man later died of his injuries in hospital. The car was later discovered but the perpetrators of the attack have not been found. UNAMID released a statement saying: <http://www.wagingpeace.info/?q=node/369>

ICC: International organizations brace themselves as the head of Sudan's powerful intelligence agency has warned that radicals could target foreigners if the world court indicts President Omar al-Bashir, Sudan's state media has reported. The ICC's Pre Trial Chamber judges are set to release their decision on the arrest of al-Bashir as early as this month. Watch out for news unfolding. <http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5gSYi2MKfgDhBGRuvJcGDtDhTsTfg>
<http://www.wagingpeace.info/?q=node/293>

DEPORTATION STOPPED: We would like to thank all of you who wrote to your MP and the Home Office opposing the scheduled deportation to Sudan of Abdulmajid Ismail. With days to go before his planned deportation, Waging Peace managed to secure a new lawyer for Abdulmajid and collected evidence from the Darfuri community and Sudanese experts who confirmed his ethnicity. This allowed us to get a judicial review filed at the High Court and thus prevent Abdulmajid's deportation an hour before his flight was due to leave. The hundreds of emails that were sent to MPs and the Home Office on Abdulmajid's behalf put sustained pressure on the Home Office, which eventually led them to acknowledge the judicial review and cancel Abdulmajid's flight. We have continued to work with Abdulmajid and his new lawyer and he is now out of detention and has made a fresh claim for asylum. <http://www.wagingpeace.info/?q=node/368>

January 2009

Newsletter

- Waging Peace Founder Rebecca Tinsley's Opinion piece in The Guardian
- UNAMID peacekeepers attacked
- Waging Peace stops the deportation of Darfuri Asylum seeker Abdulmajid Ismail

2009 is going to be a busy and exciting year for Waging Peace. We are planning research trips to Uganda and Chad. We'll also keep you up to date on the Darfur crisis and the UK's policy on asylum seekers. Thank you for your continued support.