

Europe External Programme with Africa

SITUATION REPORT - HORN OF AFRICA

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Situation in Sudan (per 27 April)

- The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) proposed to extend the current truce by additional 72-hours, and hold peace negotiations between warring parties in Juba on Friday.
- Both sides were asked to send their envoy representatives.
- The leader of Sudan Armed Forces (SAF), Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, agreed to the proposal while Rapid Support Forces (RSF) have not responded yet.
- This new diplomatic push comes as the current ceasefire brokered by the US is due to end on Thursday evening.
- The US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Moussa Faki, AU Commission Chair, discussed the US-AU collaboration in support of ending hostilities and establishing a peace process in Sudan.
- Both parties reiterated that AU should hold a pivotal role in applying diplomatic pressure on warring sides to silence the guns and create humanitarian corridors.
- Airstrikes were again reported in Khartoum today.
- Sudan's Ministry of Health confirmed that at least 512 people have been killed.
- Medical supplies were delivered to a health facility in Khartoum but the health care situation across the country remains dire, confirmed MSF.
- Safe passage of our ambulances and civilians seeking healthcare, and facilitation of movement of those who are delivering humanitarian assistance is urgently needed, says Dr Abubakr Bashir Bakri, MSF operations manager for Sudan.
- Several Sudanese citizens are stranded as they have been left without passports as the foreign embassies evacuated their staff members without returning the passports to the visa applicants.
- The World Food Programme (WFP) has started evacuation of their staff members from Sudan, confirmed Steve Taravella, a WFP's spokesperson.
- Estimated 50,000 acutely malnourished children are left without treatment as the nutrition programmes have been suspended, confirmed the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).
- 61% of health facilities in Sudan are closed, and only 16% are operating as normal, said Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, The World Health Organisation Chief in a press briefing.
- Deaths are expected to increase, says WHO, due to: disease outbreaks, lack of access to food and water, and disruptions to health services, such as immunization.

Situation in Tigray (per 27 April)

- Presidents of the Ethiopian regional states, city mayors and senior party officials arrived in Mekelle.
 - The delegation led by the vice president of the Prosperity Party Adam Farah was received by the Tigray Interim Administration Getachew Reda and other authorities of the region.
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- The delegation includes Oromia region president Shimelis Abdissa, Amhara region president Dr Yilkal Kefale and Addis Ababa mayor Adanech Abebie and other high ranking officials.
- Officials visited factories in Wukro city which were destroyed during the war.

Situation in Ethiopia (per 27 April)

- The Ethiopian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) welcomed the initiative of the EU council to normalise the relations with Ethiopia.
- The Ethiopian embassy in Khartoum continues to provide support to Ethiopian citizens despite the ongoing conflict, confirmed the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- Some staff members are working from the embassy premises while others including the ambassador have left and are operating from the Gedaref area.
- Restoration works of the water facilities damaged by war in northern regions of Ethiopia are being accelerated, confirmed Habtamu Itefa, the Minister of Water and Energy.
- Ethiopia is willing to reopen negotiations with Egypt and Sudan over the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD), confirmed Ambassador Mesganu Arga, Ethiopian State Minister for Foreign Affairs.

International Situation (per 27 April)

- EU Special Representative for the Horn of Africa, Dr. Annette Weber, met with Moussa Faki, AU Commission Chairman, and other regional stakeholders to discuss the efforts in support of peace in Sudan.
- The International Rescue Committee (IRC) called on the international community to give appropriate attention and humanitarian assistance to all people who remain trapped in Sudan.
- "European leaders are focused on evacuating their citizens, but there is no time to waste in shifting focus on supporting and protecting those who remain", said David Miliband, President of the IRC.
- The EU has launched a Rapid Nationwide Stabilisation programme with Somalia worth € 4.5 million. The programme will be addressing water infrastructure, local governance and rule of law security and social reconciliation.
- This project will aim to support a transition to a "peaceful and stable nation".

Links of interest

[Secretary Blinken's Call with African Union Commission Chairperson Faki About Ending the Fighting in Sudan](#)
[Sudanese army accepts IGAD initiative for talks in Juba](#)
[More air strikes in Sudan as ceasefire expiry looms](#)
[MSF responds to medical needs, prepares to scale up activities in Sudan](#)
[WFP's 'priority' in Sudan is getting staff out](#)
[Sudan: Clashes between SAF and RSF - Flash Update No. 7 \(26 April 2023\)](#)
[WHO Director-General's opening remarks at the media briefing](#)
[Regional states presidents, city mayors, senior party officials headed to Mekelle](#)
[The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia](#)
[Necessary Supports Being Provided To Ethiopians In Sudan: MoFA](#)
[Reconstruction Of War-Damaged Water Facilities In Northern Ethiopia Ramping Up: Ministry](#)
[Twitter: Annette Weber](#)
[IRC calls on international community to shift attention from evacuees to those who remain in Sudan](#)
[Somalia: EU launches a new Rapid Nationwide Stabilisation programme worth €4.5 million](#)

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