



United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)

Media & Spokesperson Unit
Communications & Public Information Office

UPDATE

11 JUNE, 2014

UNMISS “PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS” (PoC) SITES

- As of 11 June, the estimated number of civilians seeking safety in ten Protection of Civilians (PoC) sites located on UNMISS bases is 94,175, including 31,940 in Juba (Tompson and UN House), 18,003 in Malakal, 3,637 in Bor, 38,900 in Bentiu, 656 in Wau, 984 in Melut, 26 in Nasser, and 29 in Rumbek.

STATE	LOCATION	Number of civilians seeking protection
Central Equatoria, Juba	Tompson	14,593
	UN House	17,347
Jonglei	Bor	3,637
Lakes	Rumbek	29
Upper Nile	Malakal	18,003
	Melut	984
	Nasser	26
Unity	Bentiu	38,900
Western Bahr El Ghazal	Wau	656
TOTAL		94,175

ACTIVITIES IN PROTECTION SITES

Juba, UN House and Tompson sites

- A “go-and-see” visit of 50 leaders of communities currently in Tompson protection site has taken place on Wednesday 11 June to assess living conditions at the new site (PoC3) established next to UN house in Jebel. PoC3 is the new site where all civilians currently in Tompson will be eventually relocated, on a voluntary basis. The “go-and-see” visit is part of an ongoing

sensitization campaign aiming at convincing civilians to move voluntarily from Tomping to PoC3. During the visit, community leaders have been able to see the proposed area, and receive briefings on security by the UN Police and the UN military force as well as on service delivery.

- The “go-and-see” visit is part of sensitization and preparation measures to support voluntary relocation. The ongoing campaign also includes:
 - Door to door communications conducted by outreach teams
 - Radio messages run on a daily bases
 - Information boards and posters
 - “Town criers”
- On Saturday 7 June, 87 civilians have already voluntarily moved from Tomping to UN House protection site in the framework of a “cash-for-work” program, whereby civilians participate in building of shelters and other facilities on PoC3. This move is ahead of the broader relocation to PoC3 which will take place in the course of the coming weeks

Toming

- Nearly 1,200 internally displaced persons moved within Tomping from worst rain-affected areas to a new space located in drier area.

Malakal

- On Monday 9 June, the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General, SRSG Hilde F. Johnson inaugurated a new protection site adjacent to the UNMISS compound in Malakal. The new site will relieve congestion in the existing facilities currently established inside the UNMISS base. The new site, 100,000 square metres, has the capacity to accommodate 8,000 to 9,000 civilians. Over 3,000 people had already moved to the site in the previous days



The SRSG inaugurates the new Protection of Civilians Site in Malakal.

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"I have been following very closely the situation in Malakal and have pushed extremely hard for engineering capacity to be provided on a timely basis so the site could be ready as quickly as possible" the SRSG said during her visit to Malakal

WEBSITE

UNMISS chief visits Malakal, inaugurates new protection site

<http://www.unmiss.unmissions.org/Default.aspx?tabid=3465&ctl=Details&mid=6047&ItemID=4104447&language=en-US>

DEPUTY SRSG TOBY LANZER TRAVELLED TO BENTIU AND LEER, UNITY STATE

On 4 and 5 June, the Deputy SRSG Toby Lanzer travelled to Bentiu and Leer, in Unity State. In Bentiu, Toby Lanzer and the UNMISS Unity State Coordinator met with the Acting Governor Mabek Deng and members of his cabinet along with Brig Gen Obworo and other senior officers from the SPLA. DSRSG Lanzer discussed the implications of the new UNMISS mandate, operational issues that have a bearing on the humanitarian response and expressed concern over a number of issues regarding the protection of civilians. In Leer, Lanzer visited the market and hospital, and met with community representatives and authorities and humanitarian partners to discuss the humanitarian needs and operational challenges.

PRESS RELEASE

■ *SRSG Johnson inaugurates new protection-of-civilians site in Malakal*

The Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General (SRSG) for South Sudan, Hilde F. Johnson, today inaugurated a new Protection of Civilians (PoC) site under UNMISS' protection and adjacent to the Mission's Base in the state capital Malakal.

Intended to relieve congestion in the existing site inside the UNMISS compound, the new facility has an area of 100,000 square metres and can accommodate between 8,000 and 9,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs).

Of the estimated 19,000 civilians currently living inside the Mission's Malakal facilities, slightly over 3,100 had already moved to the new site as of last Saturday, 7 June and the SRSG hailed its opening as an excellent example of cooperation between UNMISS and humanitarian actors.

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“As long as people feel afraid, they can know they have our protection,” said the SRSG during a ceremony in the context of the inauguration of the new Protection of Civilians site. “That commitment remains, and UNMISS has received a new mandate from the UN Security Council where protection of civilians is not only important, it’s a top priority.”

UNMISS threw open its gates to all unarmed civilians facing an imminent threat of physical violence when the crisis in South Sudan erupted in Juba on 15 December 2013. Over 93,000 civilians are currently living in ten of the Mission’s compounds nationwide, the largest number of IDPs to be housed by UNMISS since hostilities forced hundreds of thousands of South Sudanese residents to flee their homes.

A new Protection of Civilians site adjacent to the United Nations House complex on the south-western outskirts of Juba has also been opened where a large-scale relocation of IDPs from the Mission’s Topping compound to the new site is expected to take place during the second half of this month.

The trip marked the SRSG’s second visit to Malakal this year, and during her stay Ms. Johnson met with Upper Nile State deputy governor Awer Dua Agany and the state government’s cabinet of ministers and spoke to a number of IDPs.

“Today, 9 June, is the date of the meeting in Addis Ababa between His Excellency Salva Kiir Mayardit, President of the Republic of South Sudan, and Riek Machar Teny,” she told reporters after seeing the deputy governor. “We really hope that progress will be made so that there will be full compliance with the cessation of hostilities agreement and major steps are taken towards comprehensive peace. Ultimately, it is peace and stability that will permit people to feel safe enough to return to their communities and neighbourhoods,” said SRSG Hilde F. Johnson.

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