

Annex II

Public

Sudan's president, wanted by the ICC, visits Uganda

KAMPALA, Uganda (AP) — Rights groups on Monday urged Ugandan authorities to arrest the visiting president of Sudan, who has long been wanted by the International Criminal Court for serious crimes.

Sudan President Omar al-Bashir was welcomed to Uganda Monday by Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni. Sudan's president is here for a two-day visit.

As a signatory to the ICC treaty, Uganda has an obligation to arrest Omar al-Bashir, who has been indicted by the ICC for alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity in Sudan's Darfur region.

"Inviting an international criminal suspect to Uganda not only undermines the fight against impunity which Uganda has for long championed but also betrays the concerns and interests of the victims of the most heinous crimes," six Ugandan rights watchdogs said in a joint statement. "We therefore call upon the government of Uganda to fulfill its obligations under international and domestic laws by arresting and surrendering President Omar al-Bashir."

Al-Bashir's presence in Uganda "is an affront to Darfur's victims," said the U.S.-based Human Rights Watch. Other African members of the ICC, including Kenya and Nigeria, "have avoided or curtailed such visits by al-Bashir," said Elise Keppler of Human Rights Watch.

South Africa, however, hosted al-Bashir in 2015 and did not arrest him. The ICC's finding that South Africa should have arrested al-Bashir prompted South Africa to announce that it would withdraw from the ICC. Some other African countries have called for a mass exit from the ICC treaty, saying the court unfairly targets Africans.

Ugandan authorities say the Sudanese leader is immune from arrest because he is a head of state visiting at the invitation of Uganda's government.

Uganda's Museveni has sharply criticized the ICC, calling it "useless" during his inauguration in May 2016, an event that al-Bashir attended.

During al-Bashir's visit "areas of cooperation will be discussed, including trade and investment, agriculture, regional peace and security as well as international matters of mutual interest," Uganda's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in a statement.

Sudan imports 20 percent of Uganda's coffee, "the single biggest export market" for one of Uganda's top revenue earners, according to the statement.

Uganda's diplomatic ties with Sudan once were frosty, but relations improved after South Sudan gained independence from Sudan in 2011. Uganda, which backed South Sudan's decades-long war of independence, accused Sudan of supporting rebels opposed to Uganda's government who operated in northern Uganda.

<https://www.apnews.com/4d594e70fcd947679b465c4702ee67ab>

Al-Bashir, Museveni discuss peace efforts in South Sudan

November 13, 2017 (KHARTOUM) - The Sudanese President Omer al-Bashir and his Ugandan counterpart Yoweri Museveni Monday have discussed bilateral relations, regional peace and security and the ongoing crisis in South Sudan.

Al-Bashir has arrived in Kampala on Sunday for a three-day visit on the invitation of President Museveni.

Sudan's Foreign Minister Ibrahim Ghandour told reporters following the meeting of al-Bashir and Museveni the two leaders discussed joint cooperation between the two countries, saying they agreed to organize an investment forum in Khartoum.

According to the official news agency *SUNA*, Ghandour added al-Bashir and Museveni underlined support for peace and security in the Great Lakes region.

He also said the two leaders agreed to support peace efforts in South Sudan according to the agreements mediated by the East African regional bloc (IGAD).

The Sudanese top diplomat pointed out that Museveni has congratulated al-Bashir on the lift of the U.S. economic embargo on Sudan, renewing his firm stance against the International Criminal Court (ICC).

Ghandour added the two leaders agreed on the need to exchange visits and continue meetings of the joint ministerial committee between the two countries.

Following ten years of strained relations, Museveni visited Khartoum in September 2015 where he and al-Bashir agreed to work together to bring stability in South Sudan and the region, and to end tensions between the two countries over the issue of rebel groups.

The Year 2016, witnessed a steady rapprochement between the two countries, accelerated, by the South Sudanese crisis and their joint efforts to end the three crisis in the neighbouring nation.

The visit of President Museveni to Khartoum in October 2016 to take part in the closing conference of the government-led national dialogue is seen as a turning point in the relationship between the two countries.

In September 2016, the Ugandan government facilitated informal talks between the Sudanese government and armed groups in Darfur and Sudan's Blue Nile and South Kordofan areas, in a bid to support the African Union High Implementation Panel (AUHIP) efforts to bring peace in the east African country.

CALLS TO ARREST AL-BASHIR

Rights groups on Monday urged Ugandan government to arrest the visiting president of Sudan, who has long been wanted by the International Criminal Court (ICC) for crimes against humanity, genocide and war crimes.

"Inviting an international criminal suspect to Uganda not only undermines the fight against impunity which Uganda has for long championed but also betrays the concerns and interests of the victims of the most heinous crimes," six Ugandan rights watchdogs said in a joint statement.

"We, therefore, call upon the government of Uganda to fulfil its obligations under international and domestic laws by arresting and surrendering President Omer al-Bashir," further said the joint statement.

In May 2016, al-Bashir, who was indicted by ICC on counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity, was one of the dignitaries at Museveni's inauguration in Kampala.

Uganda is a state party to the Rome Statute and has an obligation to arrest the Sudanese president.

(ST)

<http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article63988>

11/14/2017 Yoweri K Museveni on Twitter: "Glad to host Comrade Field Marshall Omar El-Bashir for a two-day official visit to Uganda. H.E. Bashir is h..."



Yoweri K Museveni ✓
@KagutaMuseveni

Tweets
3,313

Following
25

Followers
616K

Likes
27

Follow

Yoweri K Museveni ✓

@KagutaMuseveni

President of the Republic of Uganda

📍 Uganda

🌐 yowerikmuseveni.com

📅 Joined March 2010

📷 2,428 Photos and videos



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Yoweri K Museveni ✓ @KagutaMuseveni · 19h

I have also asked H.E. Bashir to help us court more Arab investors. In that light, he has offered to host a Uganda-Arab Investment Summit in Khartoum. I will attend the summit to encourage more investors to come to Uganda.



💬 22

↻ 56

👍 134



Yoweri K Museveni ✓ @KagutaMuseveni · 19h

We have held discussions and agreed to cooperate more in the fields of trade, foreign affairs and regional security. Uganda will export more tea and coffee to Sudan. A joint ministerial team will follow up to actualise this.



Yoweri K Museveni ✓
@KagutaMuseveni

Follow



Glad to host Comrade Field Marshall Omar El-Bashir for a two-day official visit to Uganda. H.E. Bashir is here on my invitation. We have held discussions on how to strengthen bilateral relations between our countries.

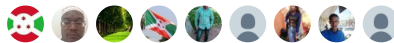


11/14/2017 Yoweri K Museveni on Twitter: "Glad to host Comrade Field Marshall Omar El-Bashir for a two-day official visit to Uganda. H.E. Bashir is h..."



5:11 AM - 13 Nov 2017

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68

104

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Asuman Lukwago @ps_lukwago · 15h

Replying to @KagutaMuseveni

Kampala to Khartoum high way road project??



1



Soak de Sun @SoakSun · 12h

Replying to @KagutaMuseveni

On how to strengthen the 2 kingdoms..



1

2



Dr Semeni Nyerere @DR_NYERERE · 11h

Replying to @KagutaMuseveni

Nonsense



Adeboye Samuel @fesojayesam · 16h

Replying to @KagutaMuseveni

Any bilateral agreement that doesn't address problems that are crucial to human existence isn't an agreement. Also, you must address corruption, sleaze and impropriety that have cloaked ur administration. Enough of wanton corruption!



Wasajja Robert @robert_wasajja · 17h



Yoweri K Museveni @KagutaMuseveni · Nov 11

I thank Tanzania for giving us concessions to use the Tanga route for the pipeline. In some areas, they allowed the pipeline to pass through road reserves thus cutting costs of compensation.

