



Weekly Nile Basin Media Radar

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South Sudan is not afraid of Ethiopia: Information Minister warns

South Sudanese officials have stepped up rhetoric against Ethiopia in what analysts see as a moment that is developing in the relations between the two countries, with a government official at the Ministry of Information in Juba telling a reporter that his government was not afraid of Ethiopia. Ethiopia has been looking at Kiir's government in Juba with a second thought lately over South Sudan's embracement of Egyptian government policy towards the Ethiopian Dam and the Nile water agreement.

<http://bit.ly/2jXtUEP>

South Sudan Ambassador dismisses rift with Ethiopia

South Sudan's embracement of Ethiopia is dismissing reports that relations are strained between the two countries after President Salva Kiir visited Egypt and met with President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi in Cairo earlier this month. South Sudan's Ambassador to Ethiopia and the African Union, James Pitia Morgan, made the remarks after some Ethiopian and South Sudanese media outlets reported that South Sudan and Egypt had signed what they called a "dirty deal" to arm Ethiopian

opposition groups based in South Sudan who aim to sabotage the big dam that Ethiopia is building on the Nile River.

<http://bit.ly/2kpmusl>

Battle against Egypt's Nile dam power project

Egypt's Nile dam power project has caused concern amongst both legal entities and political activists, who are preparing a lawsuit against the preliminary agreement signed by President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, Albawaba News reported on Thursday. The development of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD) has raised concerns around its impact on the country's long-term water supply, and its subsequent effect on the nation's electricity supply.

<http://bit.ly/2jXwlXY>

Nile Cooperation taking root

Water and land-related investment symposium was conducted in the Sudanese town, Wad Medani, from December 3-5, 2016. The symposium, which was organised by the joint effort of International Water Management Institute (IWMI) and Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) and Sudanese Hydraulic Research Centre (HRC). The

symposium had aimed at breaking the impasse over utilisation of Nile, enhancing cooperation between Nile riparian countries and scaling up utilisation of the Nile for common benefit. Research papers were presented by numerous scholars and experts engaged in the water sector. These intellectuals unanimously stated that there is a great deal of knowledge vacuum in the various water projects that are being carried out in eastern Nile Basin.

<http://bit.ly/2jXxzlK>

Egypt's thawing relations with Nile Basin Initiative: What you need to know

The Nile Basin Initiative is currently preparing a delegation to visit Cairo to discuss Egypt's possible return to the regional grouping after seven years of inactivity, the initiative's head said. "Hopefully by March, the NBI can send the delegation if formed, and successful talks would depend on the Egyptian authorities," Innocent Ntabana, the executive director of the initiative, told Ahrum Online by phone earlier this month from Entebbe. Egypt froze its participation in the bloc in 2010, but last July, Egyptian Irrigation Minister Mohamed Abdel Ati attended the 24th annual meeting of the NBI's Nile Council of Minister (Nile-COM) in Uganda, a move viewed as partial return of the northern African nation to active participation in the group.

<http://bit.ly/2j3slrG>

2016 was the hottest year on record

It's official. Both NASA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration have confirmed that 2016 was the hottest year on record, records that have been kept since 1880. So just how much warmer is it? NASA found that 2016 was 1.78 degrees warmer than the mid-20th century average, while NOAA found 2016 was 1.69 degrees warmer than the 20th

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century average. The agencies use those periods as a set point for measuring climate change. "The trends that we've been seeing since the 1970s are continuing and have not paused in any way," Gavin Schmidt, director of NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies, told reports Wednesday. The record-setting year is one more piece of data showing a continued rise in global temperatures year over year.

<http://bit.ly/2jDGSXr>

Uganda's lakes recede as dry spell hits hard

[...] A group of children are playing about in the wreckage of wooden fishing canoes which were abandoned by fishermen when the lake's shoreline started receding. It is just over five years since the fishermen first noticed that the edge of the water in the lake in Gogonyo sub-county was receding. Today, the distance between the edge of the lake and its former shoreline is over 5km. the space between the point where the current edge of the lake is and the shoreline has been reclaimed by farmers for cultivation. Some people have built homes on land that was once under water.

<http://bit.ly/2jl3bQE>