

Report: Violence in Darfur increasing

by UPI

BRUSSELS -- Violence is increasing again in Sudan's Darfur region and humanitarian agencies have less access to victims of the conflict, a human rights group said Monday. The International Crisis Group also said a political settlement remains far off, and that a multi-country peacekeeping force is not yet effective. Confrontations have increased and the warring parties have splintered into more factions than there were in 2003 and 2004, the region's most intense period of fighting, said the ICG, which monitors regions in conflict around the world. The African Union and United Nations should revise their strategy for the peacekeeping force and address all of the conflict's root causes, said the ICG. It called the 2006 Darfur Peace Agreement a failure. The ICG said refugee camps are becoming more violent as residents are manipulated by various tribal factions and the government in Khartoum tries to force the camp's residents to return to unsafe areas where relief agencies lack access.

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