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State of the art stage is seen here as it is being built in downtown Tripoli by 1500 workers. It that will be the center of celebration on the first of September where a major art show will be taking place. Over 700,000 people are expected to attend, including Libya's VIP guests who are to take part in the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Great September Revolution. (Read the story on page 20)

Dignitaries from around the World to Attend 40th Anniversary of the Revolution

Heads of State and Government from Around the World to Attend the 40th Anniversary of the Revolution

President Hugo Chavez of Venezuela will be among a large number of heads of state and government will be visiting Libya this week to take part in the celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the Great Al Fateh Revolution.

Among these dignitaries there will also be Malta's President George Abela.

President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo will also visit Libya on September 1.

A statement issued on Thursday by the Foreign Ministry of the Philippines the visit would sustain the excellent ties that have existed between the Philippines and Libya since

1976, when diplomatic ties were first established.

Also special envoy of Chinese President Hu Jintao, Jiang Weixin, also Chinese Minister of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, is to attend the celebration of the 40th anniversary.

Libya played a significant role in bringing peace and development in southern

Philippines, and was instrumental to the conclusion of the 1976 Tripoli Agreement and in the 1996 Final Peace Agreement between Manila and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF).

Rome confirmed last week that the Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi is to travel to Tripoli on Sunday to take part in celebration of the 40th

anniversary and also to mark the first anniversary of a friendship treaty signed in 31 August 2008.

The Spanish royal couple will also take part in the celebrations.

Many African heads of state are also expected to attend. They will be in Libya in for an extraordinary summit on Monday of the 53-nation African Union.



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Sudan's Darfur no Longer at War: Peacekeeping Chief

Sudan's Darfur region is no longer in a state of war and only has one rebel group capable of mounting limited military

campaigns, the head of the area's peacekeeping force said as he ended his tour of duty.

The commander of the joint

U.N./African Union UNAMID peacekeeping force, Martin Luther Agwai, told reporters the conflict had now descended into banditry and "very low intensity" engagements that could still blight the remote western region for years without a peace deal.

"As of today, I would not say there is a war going on in Darfur," he said in a briefing in

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