



## B. Involvement of Darfurian armed actors

138. In addition to organized criminal gangs, different Darfurian armed actors are facilitating migrant smuggling through and from Darfur as a means of financing. These include former Darfurian rebels who have demobilized and are said to be transporting migrants from various localities of Darfur to the border areas. For example, confidential sources informed the Panel that former members of SLA/AW, currently based in El Fasher, have been participating in this activity. Other sources indicated that elements of SLA/MM have been actively involved in this trade, in particular along the North Darfur-Chad border. Khater Shatta, a former SLA/MM commander based in North Darfur,<sup>63</sup> is said to have been one of those involved in arranging transport for migrants from North Darfur into Chad and onwards. Reports further indicate that armed groups and militias are levying unofficial taxes to allow the passage of migrant convoys through their areas in North Darfur. A SLA/AW commander based in Jebel Isa, North Darfur, is alleged to be among those benefitting from this illegal taxation. Finally, various sources indicated that Arab militia groups, in particular those based in the Wadi Howar and Saraf Umra areas, are facilitating the transport of migrants across North Darfur to border areas. The Panel is investigating the links between these smuggling networks and those operating in Libya.

139. According to various sources, in recent years there has been an increase in the recruitment of Darfurians by rebel groups operating in Libya. Typically, fixers working for these rebel groups lure Darfurians to Libya to work as mercenaries with offers of financial compensation, and with promises of later assisting them in their

<sup>63</sup> As noted in annex III, Khater Shatta was killed by Government of the Sudan forces in June.