



**S U D A N**

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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**STATEMENT**

**BY**

**HIS EXCELLENCY**

**THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

**OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE SUDAN**

**DR. LAM AKOL AJAWIN**

**BEFORE THE 62<sup>ND</sup> SESSION OF THE**

**UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**NEW YORK, OCTOBER 3, 2007**

***Please Check Against Delivery***

**Mr. President,  
Mr. Secretary General,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen.**

It gives me pleasure to convey to Your Excellencies Heads of State and Government and Heads of Delegations here present, the greetings and well wishes of His Excellency Omer Hassan Ahmed El Bashir, the President of the Republic of the Sudan, who due to unforeseen circumstances could not be here to take part in this important session.

It also gives me great pleasure to congratulate you for your election as the President of the United Nations General Assembly in its present Sixty Second Session. I am confident that your rich experience and high professionalism will lead its deliberations to the expected results. I would also like to seize this opportunity to pay tribute to your predecessor, Sheika Haya bint Rashid Elkhailifa for the commendable effort she undertook during the previous session.

I would like to seize this opportunity as well to once again congratulate His Excellency Secretary General Ban Ki-moon for his election to lead this organization. We have no doubt that he will contribute constructively in the revitalization of the United Nations role, preserving its Charter and the service of the member states in a spirit of respect and transparency, and enabling the United Nations to confront the current challenges in this critical juncture in the development of International Relations, and where the international community is faced with huge challenges in many areas.

Mr. President,

Our President announced before you last year on this platform that peace in our country is no longer a dream, but a reality we live, and an irreversible strategic choice. It gives me pleasure today to convey to you that since then, we have continued with determination to implement the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) and translating it into reality.

All the constitutional institutions necessary to implement the peace agreement have been formed. On the level of the executive institutions the Presidency, the Government of National Unity, The Government of Southern Sudan, and the Governments of the States have all been set up.

Also the legislative institutions on National, Southern Sudan and the States levels are operational.

On the judicial level, the National Judicial Service Commission and the Constitutional Court have been set up. Also, all the commissions stipulated in the CPA such as the National Constitutional Review Commission, the Assessment and Evaluation Commission, the National Petroleum Commission, the National Public Service Commission, the Commission on the Rights of the non-Muslims in the national capital, and the Ad hoc North - South Border Commission have been formed and are all now carrying out their duties diligently and conscientiously.

According to the timeline for the implementation of the CPA, the National Electoral Commission and the Human Rights Commission will be formed by the end of this year when the National Legislature adopts the relevant acts at the resumption of its session this month. There are some of the outstanding issues which are now under discussion and consideration through joint committees between the two partners and other members of the Government of National Unity. We hope they will be resolved soon, especially that the two partners have declared their commitments to do so. Moreover, it is important to underline the fact that peace and security are prevalent in Southern Sudan and the areas included in the CPA. This by itself is the greatest achievement of the agreement as it is the sine qua non for the implementation of the other provisions.

Whilst my country reaffirms its full commitment to the CPA in letter and spirit, and is determined to pursue its implementation with vigor, it looks forward to the international community to deliver on its pledges towards the requirements of peace starting with the pledges of the Oslo 2005 Donor conference, the cancellation of the external debt, lifting of unilateral economic sanctions and restrictions that hinder the reconstruction and development efforts, and in effect defeat the very objectives of the CPA itself, so that the country is able to face the burden of reconstruction and development.

Peace and security, Mr. President, are two faces of the same coin, and none can exist without the other. The Sudanese citizen is anxiously looking forward for peace dividends in the form of reconstruction and development. We should not fail to meet this legitimate expectation.

Mr. President,

The march for peace continued with determination with the signing of the Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA) in Abuja under the kind auspices and mediation of the African Union in May 2006. This agreement marks a great leap towards peace, stability and development in Darfur through dialogue. This fact was acknowledged by the international community which effectively contributed towards its conclusion.

We have embarked on the implementation of the Agreement in its various aspects. In power-sharing, the Darfur Transitional Authority was formed and necessary appointments into the executive legislative positions for the sons and daughters of Darfur at all levels of Government in accordance with the DPA were made. All aspects of power and wealth sharing and security arrangements especially, the Cease Fire Commission, have been put in place in compliance with the Agreements and in full cooperation with the partners.

In relation to the humanitarian situation, my country has consistently been fully committed to facilitating unhindered access to the flow of relief assistance to the affected and needy population. It has also facilitated the work and movement of the humanitarian organizations in Darfur. All these efforts were crowned with the Agreement for the facilitation of humanitarian work which we signed with the United Nations on March 28, 2007 and which is being implemented through a joint mechanism comprising the Government, the United Nations and national and international Non-Governmental Organizations.

The humanitarian situation is witnessing clear improvement confirmed by the health and humanitarian indicators supported by the lack of epidemics, hunger and food shortages; indicators that surpass some areas in the country. Also the movement of the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and refugees back to their villages is a witness to this improvement. The Secretary General of the UN saw by himself such movement during his latest visit to Sudan.

In order to protect and consolidate peace, the efforts of the Sudan Government continued with the UN to strengthen the Mission of the African Union in Darfur (AMIS) through support packages that were approved by the high level meeting in Addis Ababa in November 2006, which included the light and heavy support packages culminating in the hybrid operation, which was endorsed by the Security Council through its Resolution 1769.

The Sudan has declared its complete compliance with the letter and spirit of this resolution. This progress on the political, humanitarian and peace-keeping levels could not have been possible if the UN and related international quarters did not adopt dialogue which we have always been calling for, for quite sometime, instead of the imposition of policies, pressure and coercions. It was thus possible to arrive at an agreement acceptable to all parties, which pushed the problem of Darfur to a favorable stage, based on the devotion of efforts to the peaceful resolution and inclusion of the movements that did not sign the DPA.

My country firmly believes that the resolution of the Darfur problem must be political through negotiations, therefore we see the importance of giving the negotiated political process due importance and high priority, a situation we have reaffirmed previously in the Addis Ababa high level consultations referred to earlier. I would hereby like to reiterate the full support of my Government of the joint AU/UN initiative under their envoys Mr. Jan Eliasson and Mr. Salim Ahmed Salim. We further reiterate our full readiness for the peace talks in Libya scheduled to take place on October 27, 2007.

We call on all the rebel movements in Darfur to join the peace march without delay, and cease hostilities forthwith in response to the repeated calls of the Sudan Government. My Government has already declared a unilateral cease fire that will start with the peace talks on October 27<sup>th</sup>. We expect the armed factions to reciprocate so that a permanent and verifiable cease fire is arrived at with the beginning of the talks. We also call on international community to take firm measures against those who refuse to participate in or obstruct the peace talks.

We also call upon international actors that host some leaders of these factions to demonstrate and prove their credibility through persuading them to participate in the Libya talks, which the high level consultations held in New York on September 21<sup>st</sup> has resolved to be final and conclusive.

The issue of reconstruction and development constitute a major factor for stability and the consolidation of efforts towards the political settlement. We therefore see the exigency of paying similar attention to the issue of development, rehabilitation, and reconstruction as stipulated in the UN/SC Resolution 1769. We look forward for the international community to finalize its current efforts towards holding an international conference on the reconstruction of Darfur which we hope will take place soon.

Mr. President,

In the twist and turns of the Darfur problem, my country has been a subject of unfair and hostile ill-intentioned campaigns from some international quarters bent on exploiting the crisis in Darfur to serve their well known agendas and plans. This vicious campaign targeted the policies of the country and its stance, and has strived to exaggerate and distort facts and to violate the country's capabilities and the heritage and values of its people. The campaign also has as one of its objectives to divert attention from other regional and international crisis.

We hope that the international community will stand up to its responsibilities in the service of peace and stability in Darfur and seize the golden opportunity that is provided by the expected peace talks in Libya.

My country that has reaffirmed its full commitment to the objective of peace and stability and crowned it practically with the CPA shall leave no stone unturned in order to spread the peace and stability in Darfur, and will also strive to consolidate its positive and constructive engagement with the UN. Let us not be told that there is a person or group of persons more concerned, or more determined to stop bloodshed and realize peace and stability in Dafur than the Government.

Mr. President,

We live in a world of continuous challenges and recurrent threats, and there is no doubt that the international community is convinced more than ever before that there is no way to confront these challenges with the concomitant consequences except through these collective efforts led by an effective and capable organization such as the UN.

This role is consistent with the special attention this organization has begun to pay to the challenge of Climate Change and environmental degradation as reflected in the interventions of the Heads of State and Government during the opening session.

Climate Change and environment degradation constitute major causes of conflict in many African countries, including my country as reflected by the comprehensive report of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) which has shown the serious challenges that are facing the world as a result of climate change.

This necessitates the employment of our joint efforts and capabilities to work together in order to save our planet for the present and future generations.

We all recognize that confronting Climate Change should be achieved within the framework of the goals of sustainable development and its three pillars: economic development, social development and environmental protection. Sudan had signed and ratified the United Nations Framework Convention for Combating Climate Change (UNFCCC) in November 1993, and the Kyoto Protocol in February 2005 thus committing itself to active cooperation with the global community to address the problem of Climate Change.

A global consensus must be reached for a post 2012 agreement at the 13th Conference of Parties (COP.13) of UNFCCC/Third Meeting of Parties of the Kyoto Protocol, to be held in Bali, Indonesia in December 2007, and a successful conclusion is one that is based on the Rio principle of “Common but differentiated Responsibilities”, and one which takes fully into account the needs and concerns of the developing countries, especially the most vulnerable amongst them.

Mr. President,

The current international economic structure and the scenarios of commercial and financial conditions constitute a constraint to development in developing countries, especially the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and point at imminent dangers to its peoples due to many factors. The most important of these are: the paucity of the flow of Official Development Assistance (ODA), the unfair terms of international trade, which places restrictions on its exports to the international markets and getting unfair prices for their primary commodities, the heavy external debt, and the negative effects of the globalization process.

The Millennium Summit reaffirms the special needs of Africa and makes it a priority, hence the UN should have the lead towards that objective. In this regard, we hope that the position of the Special Advisor for Africa of the General Secretariat will be consolidated and the necessary resources be availed to the office so that it undertakes its responsibilities towards strengthening the objectives of the UN towards Africa, in particular those pertaining to the implementation of the MDGs, and the consolidation of international cooperation to support NEPAD.

Sudan re-iterates the imperatives of the Millennium Declaration and the realization of its objectives, in addition to the other international

development agenda, with special emphasis on the rights of the developing countries to determine their priorities without restrictions and conditions or predetermined obligations that impeded the efforts of its development.

In this respect, I would like to point out that my country has exerted efforts towards the realization of these objectives and realized noticeable progress in the area of poverty eradication through implementing projects directed towards the vulnerable sectors of the community aimed at reducing the incidence of poverty and improvement of educational and health services, especially maternal and child welfare, and combating diseases.

Mr. President,

The concept of human rights continues to attract the attention of the international community not only because of the vital importance of the issue but for attempts to deviate from the aim of protecting human rights and its exploitation in settling political scores. My country is of the opinion that a new approach based on dialogue and cooperation should be introduced when dealing with human rights instead of naming and shaming, condemnation and threat of imposing sanctions.

Moreover, selectivity and double standards should not influence tackling of human rights especially the Human Rights Council which completed its first anniversary with the adoption of an important document that laid the institutional foundation of the Council through, inter alia, insuring the independence of Rapporteurs when fulfilling their mandates, and the monitoring of human rights with neutrality. With the adoption of this document, the Council has genuinely started the process of correcting the failures of the Commission on Human Rights.

In fulfillment of its political commitments, and the attention it gives to all sectors of the community, especially the vulnerable, Sudan was among the first countries who signed the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Women were the focus of governmental plans and strategies aiming at their empowerment in all fields in compliance with the provisions of the Transitional Constitution and the CPA. Those efforts were crowned with the adoption of a national strategy on these matters.

Mr. President,

As indicated earlier in relation to the need that prompted the establishment of the Human Rights Council based on the experience of the Commission on Human Rights, any effort to reform the international institutions would



be futile without the reform of the United Nations itself. And the UN reform will not be effective without reforming the Security Council.

While commending the efforts exerted thus far in deliberations pertaining to Security Council reform and the revitalization of the General Assembly, it is important to exert more efforts in order to accomplish the desired objectives. Sudan reiterates its commitment to the African position as provided for in Ezulwini consensus and confirmed by subsequent summits. Africa is the only continent which has no permanent representation in the Security Council while African issues constitute more than 70% of its agenda.

Mr. President,

The fact that the Palestinian question remains unresolved since the establishment of this organization does not only tarnish the credibility of the United Nations but continues to pose serious threat to international peace and security. It is important to conclude a comprehensive, final and just solution to this conflict to end the violent confrontations between the Palestinian people and the Israeli occupying forces.

The international community should force Israel to comply with international resolutions and fulfill its commitments including those of the road map, and enable the Palestinian people to exercise its right of establishing its independent state with its capital in Jerusalem. It is imperative also to reach a final and comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict based on withdrawal of Israel from all the land it occupied in 1967. In this context, and to ensure sustainability of security and peace in the region, we wish to confirm the need to make the Middle East a Nuclear Weapon Free Zone.

Mr. President,

The developments in Iraq have further aggravated the situation in the Middle East. The increasing pace of violence in Iraq hence led to the deterioration of the security situation which makes it incumbent on all of us to cooperate and help the Iraqi people in its predicament. This can be achieved through respect of the free will of the Iraqi people, and the preservation of its unity and sovereignty, and setting a time frame for the exit of occupation from Iraq.

Mr. President,

My Country has repeatedly condemned terrorism, in all its forms. And it supports all regional and international decisions pertaining to terrorism, and affirms its cooperation with the international community to implement these decisions. However, in order uproot terrorism it is necessary to address its root causes and implement the comprehensive strategies that we have adopted.

Mr. President,

I conclude by re-iterating that for the UN to continue playing its role, we have a collective responsibility based on solid determination to make this organization a platform for collective international efforts to effectively and expeditiously address global challenges, and the need to coordinate with regional organizations within the framework of the UN Charter.

We look forward to working together to strengthen multilateral cooperation for the common good, and my country which celebrates its 51<sup>st</sup> anniversary this year of joining the UN, hopes that this Session's deliberations will represent a landmark towards fulfilling our goals.