

**EU Statement - Introduction of draft resolution L.51 on the
HRC Group of Experts on the Situation of Human Rights in Darfur
14/12/07**

Mr President,

First of all, the EU would like to welcome, once again, the report of the Group of Experts and commend the seven Special Rapporteurs for their excellent collective work done. As the EU has already stated, the compilation of all the dispersed UN recommendations to improve the grave human rights situation in Darfur and the elaboration of timeframes and indicators for the implementation of these recommendations were a major step forward in creating a mechanism that can have a concrete positive impact on the lives of the people of Darfur.

The Group of Experts started a task that will now be carried on by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Sudan. As stated in the report, most recommendations have yet to be fully implemented and to produce an effective positive impact on the ground. We urge the Government of Sudan to continue and to intensify the implementation of the identified recommendations.

Draft resolution L.51, presented jointly by the African Group and the European Union, reflects the conclusions of the report of the Group of Experts, acknowledging the efforts of the Government of Sudan to cooperate with the group and to implement some of the identified recommendations, but expressing concern that much still needs to be done to really improve the situation of human rights in Darfur. The persistence of impunity is particularly worrying and the EU would reiterate its call upon the Government of Sudan to cooperate with the International Criminal Court.

The present draft also reiterates the Council's appeal to all parties to end violence and join the peace process.

We invite all delegations to join the African Group and the European Union in adopting this draft resolution by consensus, demonstrating the clear commitment of the Council to the improvement of the dire human rights, humanitarian and security situation in Darfur.

Thank you, Mr. President.