

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 20, 2005

The Honorable George W. Bush  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Bush:

We write to express our continuing deep concern over the crisis in Darfur and the prospects for peace in Sudan. The last several months have seen significant changes in the Sudanese political landscape with the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, the formation of the new unity government and the death of SPLM leader Dr. John Garang. We appreciate the Administration's continued support for the Comprehensive Peace Agreement for Sudan and look forward to working with you to ensure its full implementation.

We write specifically to call your attention to the deteriorating situation in Darfur, which you, along with Congress, have called genocide, and to propose several immediate steps with regard to US policy towards Sudan and the greater region.

As you know, recent reports released by the African Union, United Nations, and several non-governmental and humanitarian organizations indicate a rise in violence in the Darfur region. Particularly disturbing have been the renewed attacks by government forces using helicopter gun ships against civilian populations, including against internally displaced person (IDP) camps. In addition, reports of government behavior such as the painting of military vehicles to resemble AU monitor trucks and the refusal to allow 105 armored vehicles into the country for African Union purposes have raised serious questions about the Government of Sudan's intentions for achieving security and peace.

In addition to an upsurge in violence by the government and the government-backed Janjaweed militias, we are also deeply troubled by the recent violence aimed at the African Union by rebel groups. In particular, the recent kidnappings and killing of African Union troops should be strongly condemned by the international community and swift justice should be brought to the perpetrators of these crimes. All parties have violated the N'Djamena Ceasefire Agreement. The African Union has called for these events to be brought to the attention of the Security Council in their October 10, 2005 communiqué.

Targeting of innocent civilian populations and African Union troops must not be tolerated and we write to call for immediate action by the United States to bring this before the United Nations Security Council. If such action is immediately taken, we

would also urge you to reconsider your Administration's recent decision to block the UN Special Advisor for the Prevention of Genocide, Juan Mendez, from reporting to the Council.

At the same time, we applaud Ambassador John Bolton's recent remarks that the United Nations should be taking more specific steps to address the situation. In addition we agree with his assessment of the current sanctions, as reported by the Associated Press: "Sanctions were put in before, it's not clear they're being adhered to... The question [is] whether we should do something else in that area in terms of arms into the country." We now expect that you will work with the Department of State and Ambassador Bolton to address these concerns in a constructive and timely manner with the United Nations, as well as on a bilateral basis with other actors. Specifically we urge the following steps to be taken immediately:

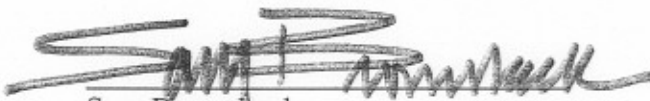
- The US should use its voice, vote and influence at the United Nations to urge the adoption of a new Security Council Resolution which:
  1. Supports the expansion and strengthening of the United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) and its mandate to include the protection and prevention of genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes in the Darfur region in coordination with the existing African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS). Preparations for UNMIS to actively support AMIS in stopping the genocide in Darfur should begin immediately.
  2. Calls for the imposition of sanctions against the Government of Sudan, including sanctions against individual members of the Government of Sudan, and entities controlled or owned by officials of the Government of Sudan or the National Congress Party in Sudan. The United Nations Security Council has previously threatened to impose sanctions if the Government of Sudan fails to stop attacks on civilians or cease offensive flights over Darfur. The Government of Sudan has repeatedly refused to do so.
  3. Calls for the extension of the military embargo established by United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1556 (July 30, 2004) and 1591 (March 29, 2005) to include a total prohibition on the sale or supply of offensive military equipment to the Government of Sudan. This would address Ambassador Bolton's concerns that the current embargo which applies only to arms directed to Darfur has proven ineffective.
  4. Urges member states of the United Nations to accelerate political, material, financial, and other assistance to AMIS.
  5. Reinforces efforts of the African Union to negotiate peace talks between the Government of Sudan, the Sudan Liberation Movement/Army (SLM/A), the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM), and associated armed groups in the Darfur region, as well other marginalized regions in Sudan, to bring an end to the conflict in Darfur and realize a comprehensive peace in Sudan.

6. Calls upon those member states of the United Nations that continue to undermine efforts to foster peace in Sudan by providing military assistance and equipment to the Government of Sudan, the SLM/A, the JEM, and associated armed groups in the Darfur region in violation of the embargo on such assistance and equipment, as called for in United Nations Security Council Resolutions, to immediately cease and desist.
  7. Calls on the Government of Sudan to immediately end the harboring the Lord's Resistance Army from neighboring Uganda. The Government of Sudan's long association with the LRA is part of a pattern of using proxy militias to terrorize innocent civilians and destabilize outlying regions.
  8. Acting under Article 5 of the Charter of the United Nations, calls for suspension of the Government of Sudan's rights and privileges of membership by the General Assembly until such time as the Government of Sudan has honored pledges to cease attacks upon civilians, demobilize the Janjaweed and associated militias, grant free and unfettered access for deliveries of humanitarian assistance in the Darfur region, and allow for safe, unimpeded, and voluntary return of refugees and internally displaced persons.
- The U.S. should also exert bilateral diplomatic pressure to ensure the passage of the UN Security Resolution described above, as well as the implementation of previous resolutions. In particular, the U.S. should seek to ensure that the Committee of the Security Council and the Panel of Experts, established by UN Security Council Resolution 1591, convenes immediately.
  - The U.S. should seek increased and accelerated NATO support for AMIS with the aim of ensuring the protection of civilians in Darfur.
  - The U.S. should seek multilateral means to enforce a military no-fly zone over Darfur.
  - The U.S. should suspend assistance to countries which violate the military and arms embargo imposed pursuant to the UN Security Council Resolutions.
  - The U.S. should block the assets and restrict the travel of any individual whom it determines is responsible for acts of genocide, war crimes, or crimes against humanity in the Darfur region.
  - The U.S. should not provide assistance to the Government of Sudan (other than assistance necessary for the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement for Sudan, the support of the regional Government of Southern Sudan and marginalized areas in northern Sudan or marginalized people in and around Khartoum, or for humanitarian purposes in Sudan) until such time as the Government of Sudan has honored pledges to cease attacks upon civilians, demobilize the Janjaweed and associated militias, grant free and unfettered access

for deliveries of humanitarian assistance in the Darfur region, and allow for safe, unimpeded, and voluntary return of refugees and internally displaced persons.


As one year of violence has turned into two years, and as tens of thousands of victims have turned into hundreds of thousands, we no longer have time to contemplate our response. Over a year ago the Administration declared that genocide was occurring. It is time to boldly stand up in the face of this evil and to lead the international community towards a stronger and more immediate response.

Sincerely,



Sam Brownback

Jon S. Corzine



Evan Bayh



Kit Bond



Richard Burr

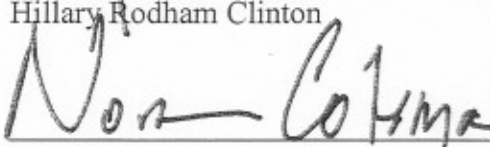
Tom Carper



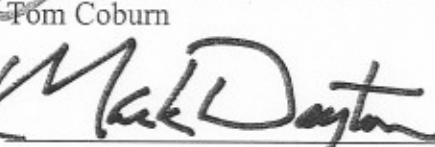
Hillary Rodham Clinton



Tom Coburn



Norm Coleman



Mark Dayton



Mike DeWine

Chris Dodd

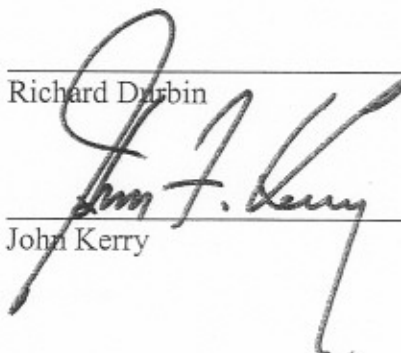


Byron Dorgan

Richard Durbin



Dianne Feinstein



John Kerry

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*Patrick Leahy*

Patrick Leahy

Joe Lieberman

Ken Salazar

*Jim Talent*

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*Barbara A. Mikulski*

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