Embassy of the United States of America Khartoum, Sudan

Public Affairs Section



U.S. Special Envoy to Sudan General Scott Gration

"Progress"

Washington, DC - 21 August 2009

In my last email to you, I wrote about the unique opportunity we have to work together to achieve real progress in Sudan. I am currently on a trip to Sudan, Ethiopia, and Egypt to take next steps in the process of implementing the CPA and advancing peace in Darfur. I am writing to you now from Khartoum, where I just arrived after spending the first several days of my trip in Southern Sudan. We're happy to report that we have already made significant progress. Yesterday, I served as witness to the initialing of an important bilateral agreement between the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) and the National Congress Party (NCP).

After several months of ongoing discussions mediated by the United States in Washington and in Sudan, the two parties have reached agreement on ten of the remaining twelve issues standing in the way of full implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA). I've included a fact sheet on the agreement with this email to let you know about the issues we have been able to advance through open dialog and productive negotiations. The two outstanding issues that remain unresolved are the census and the referendum. We will return to Sudan for additional discussions on these points in September. These are difficult issues, and we look forward to seeking your advice and support upon my return from this visit.

On Friday, I will travel to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to meet with key Darfuri armed movements to build cohesion and unification in support of the Doha peace process. We are very optimistic about the opportunity to achieve real progress, and I am eager to update you on what we are able to achieve there.

Thank you for your continued interest and dedication, Scott.

FACT SHEET

Sudan People's Liberation Movement - National Congress Party Agreement 19 August 2009

Representatives of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement and the National Congress Party initialed an agreement on 19 August 2009. The document, witnessed by US Special Envoy to Sudan Scott Gration, addresses ten of the 12 outstanding issues that stand in the way of full CPA implementation. The parties agreed to continue discussion on the two remaining issues; the census and the referendum. Points of agreement include:

• **Abyei:** the parties agree to immediately implement the Abyei Tribunal decision and to demarcate the Abyei boundary as determined by the Tribunal decision.

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- **Border Demarcation:** the parties agree to demarcate the North-South boundary line by 30 September 2009, in accordance with CPA provisions and timelines.
- **Security:** the Government of National Unity (GoNU) will avail resources for Joint Integrated Units (JIUs) as called for in the CPA.
- **Wealth Sharing:** the parties will ask the GoNU to request the International Monetary Fund to review the implementation of the two banking systems under one central bank, as called for in the CPA, The GoNU will transfer the full share of oil revenue to the Government of Southern Sudan (GoSS) in a timely manner as authorized in the CPA.
- Blue Nile and Southern Kordofan: the parties agree that there is a role for both the national government and the state governments in the popular consultations to be held in these states.
- **Elections:** the parties commit to conducting free and credible elections in April 2010, the date agreed on by the National Election Commission.
- **Democratic Transformation:** the parties agree to identify laws that are potentially inconsistent with the CPA for review by the parties by 15 September 2009.
- Making Unity Attractive: the parties agree to begin the national reconciliation process as called for in the CPA and Presidential Decree and Directives issued on 27 December 2007.
- **National Competencies:** the GoNU and GoSS and the states will operate within their areas of competency, as outlined in the CPA, and affect any agreements made by the Political-Executive Committee.
- **Darfur:** the Parties agree that the conflict in Darfur is a political problem and of national concern, and both are committed to redoubling efforts within the GoNU to resolve the conflict.