

MakePeace International

Policy Recommendations for Sudan

The systematic destruction of life and community in Southern Sudan demands strong and decisive action by the international community. Humanitarian assistance is absolutely vital, but not enough to effect lasting change. The international community should not stand by while the Government of Sudan ruthlessly pursues its policies of destruction, not only of life and livelihood, but also of culture, language, community, religion and ethnic identity. Using the politics of hunger and the policy of slavery, this regime has sought to cripple the south into submission, creating misery of unimaginable proportions. It has also given rise to dangerous political instability in Sudan and in neighbouring countries.

It is therefore essential that the international community redouble its efforts to secure peace in Sudan and thus to avoid the continuation of the catastrophic loss of life, livelihood and liberty that has been continuing, virtually unchecked, for the last decade.

MakePeace International therefore calls on the international community, and in particular the member states of the United Nations Security Council, to prevail upon the Government of Sudan to cease hostilities against the people of the South and of the Nuba Mountains, the Blue Nile and the Beja territories, and to honour its voluntarily accepted human rights obligations to all its citizens. If the Government does not comply, MakePeace urges the international community to:

1. Build upon UN Security Council Resolutions 1044, 1054 and 1070 by imposing sanctions of increasing severity arms embargoes and air exclusion zones to diminish the NIF capacity to wage war against its own people.
2. Establish and ensure a monitored cease-fire, including cessation of aerial bombardment by the GOS, covering all areas and including all parties, for a long enough period to create confidence in the above negotiations.
3. Ensure strong condemnation by the UN Commission on Human Rights concerning all human rights abuses, and the establishment of human rights field operation, with significant financial and political support.
4. Initiate and fund a slave tracing program
5. Appoint a Special Representative of the UN Security General to develop a strategic framework to provide a common focus to political, human rights and humanitarian objectives in North and South.
6. Insist that all parts of Sudan should be open to access by humanitarian aid organizations, especially SPLM/A-administered areas of the Nuba Mountains, Blue Nile and Upper Nile regions, and the areas of north-eastern Sudan administered by the Beja Congress.
7. Establish, as a matter of urgency, alternative mechanisms to cooperate with NGO's working outside the framework of the United Nations and ICRC, in order to enable emergency aid to be delivered to areas designated as "No Go" locations by the NIF regime. In particular, provide resources for medical supplies for organizations working outside the areas supported by United Nations Operation Lifeline Sudan program.
8. Strongly condemn Sudan's supply of weapons, bases and other support to the Lord's Resistance Army and intervene to ensure the freedom of all abducted children.