

**Security Council**

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**Letter dated 16 March 2021 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I have the honour to enclose herewith the contribution of the Sudanese Humanitarian Aid Commission in providing humanitarian support to the needy people in the Sudan, particularly in El Geneina in West Darfur after the intercommunal clashes in January 2021 (see annex), as part of the implementation of the Sudan's national plan for the protection of civilians in Darfur, which was shared with the Security Council in May 2020 (see [S/2020/429](#)).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohamed Ibrahim Mohamed **Elbahi**  
Chargé d'affaires a.i.



**Annex to the letter dated 16 March 2021 from the Chargé  
d'affaires a.i of the Permanent Mission of the Sudan to the  
United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

[Original: Arabic]

**Humanitarian Aid Commission**

**National plan for protecting civilians following the exit of the  
African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur  
(UNAMID)**

**Humanitarian affairs**

The present report details what the Humanitarian Aid Commission, partners in relevant organizations, the United Nations and the relevant State commissions have done to provide humanitarian assistance and facilitate humanitarian access to those affected by recent events in West Darfur and South Darfur States following the expiration of the mandate of UNAMID and the departure of its troops. That work has been carried out in accordance with the alternative mechanism and the plans for the continued provision of support and assistance to displaced persons envisioned in the Juba Peace Agreement of October 2020. Humanitarian work is based on three pillars that serve as the workplan for stabilizing the humanitarian situation following the exit of UNAMID:

1. Facilitating humanitarian organizations' access to those in need.
2. Humanitarian action that the Humanitarian Aid Commission has taken recently in West and South Darfur States.
3. The humanitarian situation following the exit of UNAMID forces and the role of the Humanitarian Aid Commission in implementing the national plan for protecting civilians and in finding sustainable solutions for displaced persons.

**Facilitating the entry of humanitarian organizations**

In order to facilitate and support humanitarian operations, the Humanitarian Aid Commission has:

- Issued directives to speed the access of humanitarian organizations and the delivery of assistance to affected areas. Those directives also abolished all measures that severely impeded the delivery of aid and access for humanitarian workers. Authorization has been given to all organizations and their staff to access all areas in need, without conditions or hinderance.
- Established committees to open humanitarian aid delivery routes in Blue Nile, South Kordofan and the Darfur States. Those roads are being protected by the relevant security agencies in implementation of the protocol on displaced persons and refugees, which relates to the provision of humanitarian assistance to those who were affected by the war. These committees operate under the supervision of the National Peace Commission, which helps them to assess the humanitarian situation and determine needs. Several convoys carrying assistance for affected persons were dispatched, in particular to areas controlled by the Popular Movement in Blue Nile State. The humanitarian commissions of the Darfur States work with partners to ensure that humanitarian assistance is delivered to those who are in need, and to help such persons return to their areas and to protect them following the exit of UNAMID.

- Adhered strictly to local and international laws, policies and legislation concerning the protection of displaced persons and returnees, and facilitated humanitarian access, in order to ensure that citizens are able to exercise their right to receive basic and necessary services. It provides livelihood opportunities and implements programmes to promote social peace, reconciliation and the transition to reconstruction and development. All of those activities are carried out in compliance with international humanitarian law, human rights principles, the Juba Peace Agreement, the Volunteer Work and Humanitarian Action Act and the national policy for displaced persons. That, in turn, helps organizations to implement humanitarian projects in accordance with the technical agreements that regulate and facilitate the process of assisting those in need in the Darfur States and other regions.

#### **Humanitarian action that the Humanitarian Aid Commission has taken recently in West and South Darfur States**

The Government, acting through the Humanitarian Aid Commission, took the initiative and pre-emptively intervened in order to address the critical humanitarian situation that arose in West and South Darfur States as a result of the recent local conflict. The Humanitarian Aid Commission, after assessing the humanitarian situation, allocated and dispatched relief supplies and, along with other stakeholders in those States, has been supervising distribution. In that connection, the following has been done:

- The roads leading to the city of El Geneina in West Darfur State have been opened, in order to allow humanitarian assistance to enter the city. A team comprising the humanitarian aid commissioners of the Darfur States, under the supervision of the Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid, negotiated with protesters who had been blocking the road at the entrance to the city. Their efforts culminated in the opening of the road and brought an end to the closure, thus allowing assistance to be brought into the city and distributed to those in need.
- Several experts and technicians were brought in to provide technical support for surveys, situation assessment and distribution of assistance, in particular in West Darfur State. That support has helped greatly to clarify the humanitarian situation and address many issues related to coordination of efforts among all partners.
- A task force was formed to monitor and assess the humanitarian situation, and appeals were made to United Nations organizations and agencies for humanitarian intervention to assist those affected in West and South Darfur States. As a result, several humanitarian convoys were dispatched from Khartoum by road with the assistance and participation of the World Food Programme (WFP). A number of volunteer organizations provided valuable assistance to that effort, including, most notably, the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre, which provided 3,500 food baskets for displaced persons in the shelters of El Geneina city.
- To support humanitarian efforts in response to the events that occurred in South Darfur State, the Humanitarian Aid Commission sent a convoy to Nyala carrying some 45 tons of various food items.

Following are the actions taken by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other partners in United Nations organizations and agencies to support persons affected by the conflict in West and South Darfur States:

- WFP distributed 903,619 tons of corn, 14 tons of lentils and 1 ton of biscuits.

- UNHCR distributed shelter materials (tents, blankets, mosquito nets, mattresses and tarpaulins) and kitchen equipment for 19,000 families.
- WFP used six trucks to transport some 420 tons of relief materials provided by the Humanitarian Aid Commission to West Darfur State.
- Substantial quantities of food were distributed by WFP at the shelter for displaced persons in El Geneina.
- The sum of \$300,000 was allocated from the Humanitarian Aid Fund to meet urgent needs in West Darfur State.
- The Humanitarian Aid Commission in El Geneina distributed 100 tents to house displaced persons from the first day of the events that occurred there.
- The Humanitarian Aid Commission supervised, monitored and followed up on the receipt and distribution of humanitarian assistance provided by the Government and organizations. There is a mechanism in West Darfur State, which was established by a decision of the governor, that includes all actors involved humanitarian efforts aimed at assisting those who were affected.

**The humanitarian situation following the exit of UNAMID and the role of the Humanitarian Aid Commission in implementing the national plan for protecting civilians**

The Humanitarian Aid Commission has developed an integrated workplan to implement sustainable solutions to protect displaced civilians and address their problems, as stipulated in the Juba Peace Agreement and the protocol on displaced persons and refugees. The Humanitarian Aid Commission participates in several governmental and non-governmental mechanisms that are devising plans and strategies for sustainable solutions that will ensure the safe return of and establish just and lasting peace for all refugees in the Sudan. Those mechanisms include the committee for monitoring implementation of the protocol on displaced persons and refugees supplementary to the Juba Peace Agreement, and the joint committee on developing a national strategic plan to develop sustainable solutions for displaced persons, refugees, returnees and host communities, under the auspices of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD). In addition, the Humanitarian Aid Commission is developing sustainable solutions for displaced persons as part of its workplan for 2021.

Following is some information on the activities that have been carried out as part of the project on sustainable solutions for displaced persons, which is aimed at addressing the humanitarian situation following the exit of UNAMID from Darfur and supporting the national plan for protecting civilians:

- The sustainable solutions project provides three options for displaced persons, namely, return, integration and resettlement. The following must be done in order to make those options possible:
  - Relief operations and humanitarian assistance must be facilitated, and access to persons in need must be ensured by opening and securing humanitarian corridors.
  - Humanitarian workers and their places of work, vehicles, equipment and supplies must be protected.
  - The protocol on displaced persons and refugees, which was signed in conjunction with the Juba Peace Agreement, and all international laws on protecting displaced persons and safeguarding their human rights must be observed.

- There must be a focus on recovery, reconstruction and development projects, livelihood projects for returnees and those who have been reintegrated, and projects to promote ownership of means of production and build the capacities of target communities to provide the training needed to restore and sustain services.
- As a precautionary measure, early warning centres must be established at the locality level in the Darfur States, in anticipation of any emergencies, incidents or conflicts that might occur and with a view to ensuring community protection. Facilities for such basic services as water, health-care and education must be established.
- Workshops and training courses must be held for those who are implementing the sustainable solutions project.
- Joint surveys must be conducted in order to update data and statistics on displaced persons.
- A joint field survey must be carried out in order to determine whether displaced persons prefer to be returned, integrated or resettled.
- Programmes to promote social and psychological transition from displacement to stability, peace and development must be implemented.
- Communities must be trained in how to utilize, manage and oversee the services that are provided to them, with a view to ensuring the sustainability of those services.

The sustainable solutions project for displaced persons offers a comprehensive solution to the issue of the protection of civilians affected by the war in Darfur. This project is at the forefront of the national plan for protecting civilians, the ultimate aims of which are to identify definitive solutions for civilians affected by the war and to bring them security, stability and lasting peace.

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