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REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM IN THE AGENDA OF THE FORTY-THIRD SESSION

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO THE SUDAN

Note verbale dated 5 October 1988 from the Permanent Representative
of the Sudan addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Sudan to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to request, in accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the inclusion of an item entitled "Emergency assistance to the Sudan" in the agenda of the forty-third session of the General Assembly for priority consideration by the Assembly in Plenary.

An explanatory memorandum is enclosed herewith in accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure.

ANNEX

Explanatory memorandum

In the months of August/September 1988, the Sudan was hit by an unprecedented disaster in its modern history when torrential rains and widespread floods devastated the country, causing massive destruction of buildings, roads and agricultural crops. An estimated two million people have been left homeless. Six hundred villages and islands were completely washed away and disappeared. A substantial sector of the country's infrastructure has been severely disrupted, including roads, railway lines, water and electricity supplies, hospitals, health centres, schools and other public utilities, and communication systems. The total damage to property, agriculture and infrastructure has been estimated at several hundred million dollars.

The people and Government of the Sudan are making every effort to help the country recover from the damage and devastation. However, the magnitude of the damage is far beyond the means and capabilities of the Sudan. The support and assistance of the international community is required to ameliorate the suffering of the victims of the disaster.
