



Security Council

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Original: English

Letter dated 30 May 2007 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Further to my letter dated 17 May 2007 and its annex (S/2007/295), I have the honour to transmit to you the second progress report on the implementation of the Darfur Peace Agreement (see annex).

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

(Signed) Abdalmahmood Abdalhaleem **Mohamad**
Permanent Representative



Annex to the letter dated 30 May 2007 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic]

In the name of God the merciful and compassionate

Office of the President of the Republic

Office of Dr. Magzoub Al-Khalifa Ahmed, Adviser to the President of the Republic

Status of Implementation of the Darfur Peace Agreement

Date: 16 May 2007

In the name of God the merciful and compassionate

Status of Implementation of the Darfur Peace Agreement

During April, the Government took additional serious practical steps to implement the Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA) signed in Abuja on 5 May 2006. The most notable achievement in this regard during April was the effective assumption by the Transitional Darfur Regional Authority (TDRA) of its duties. This began with the official opening of the Authority's headquarters in Khartoum and Darfur, followed by a series of meetings of the Authority's institutions. In addition, visits were made by the Assistant to the President of the Republic and Chairperson of the TDRA to various parts of Darfur to inform people of the establishment of the Authority and its functions and to meet with various official and civilian leaderships in Darfur.

The TDRA had previously held a joint workshop that included the Government of National Unity (GNU) and the Sudan Liberation Movement/Army (SLM/A), which is a signatory to the Abuja Agreement. Extensive discussions reviewing in detail the progress of implementation of the Agreement led to agreement on a definitive timetable for implementation of all components of the Agreement. Subsequently, the other movements that signed the Agreement were informed of the results of the workshop and the Government's full commitment to the approved implementation timetable, and those movements affirmed their agreement. The African Union (AU) also gave its full blessing to the workshop's outcome.

It also became clear from the workshop's discussions that implementation had made appreciable strides in the area of power-sharing. Preparations for security arrangements had also made steady progress and consultations to expedite implementation were ongoing daily.

Implementation of the power-sharing component

Federal level:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Appointment of the Senior Assistant to the President of the Republic as Chairperson of the TDRA | Percentage implemented: 100% |
| 2. Establishment of the TDRA by presidential decree | Percentage implemented: 100% |
| 3. Effective start of performance by the TDRA of its tasks and responsibilities | Percentage implemented: 100% |
| 4. Appointment of an Adviser to the President of the Republic from among Darfurians | This is one of the appointments awaiting completion of consultations among the parties. |
| 5. Appointments to the Federal Council of Ministers

Two State Ministers have been appointed and a Federal Minister is expected to be appointed through consultations among the parties. | The Agreement provides for two state ministerial posts and one federal ministerial post in the Council of Ministers, in addition to the other ministerial posts occupied by Darfurians.

Percentage implemented: 66% |
| 6. Appointments to the National Assembly:

The Agreement allocates 12 seats in the National Assembly to the signatory movements.

12 members have been appointed. | Percentage implemented: 100% |
| One post of Committee Chairman in the National Assembly has been allocated to the signatory movements as provided in the Agreement. | Percentage implemented: 100% |
| 7. Education: | |
| A Presidential Decree has been issued exempting students of Darfurian origin from higher education fees for a period of five years. | Percentage implemented: 100% |
| A new system has been approved for accepting students of Darfurian origin at the national universities in Khartoum, and Darfurian students have already begun to benefit from it. | Percentage implemented: 100% |
| 8. The national capital: | |
| The Agreement provides for the allocation of a federal ministerial position in the Khartoum State Government to the movements. | Percentage implemented: 100% |

A minister in Khartoum State has been appointed from the movements.

9. Borders:

The Agreement provides for the appointment of a Technical Border Committee to restore Darfur's northern border to its 1956 status.

The Technical Committee has finished drafting its technical report on the delimitation of Darfur's northern border. It remains to actually demarcate the border on the ground. The Technical Committee has departed for North Darfur and from there for the Northern State to begin performing its tasks in the field.

Percentage implemented: 50%

10. Pre-election power-sharing within Darfur:

The Agreement provides for the appointment of a Governor in Darfur from the movements, which has been done.

Percentage implemented: 100%

The Agreement provides for the appointment of two Deputy Governors in Darfur from the movements, which has been done.

Percentage implemented: 100%

The Agreement provides for the appointment of six ministers in the Darfur States from the movements. Five ministers have been appointed. One minister remains to be appointed in the State of West Darfur.

Percentage implemented: 83.3%

Appointment to high-level posts in the ministries of the Darfur States

Pending consultations among the parties

The Agreement provides for the appointment of Advisers in the Darfur States. Two have been appointed.

Percentage implemented: 66%

The Agreement provides for increasing the number of seats in the legislative assemblies of the Darfur States to 73. This has been done.

Percentage implemented: 100%

The Agreement provides for allocation of 21 seats in each of the Darfur State Legislative Assemblies to the movements.

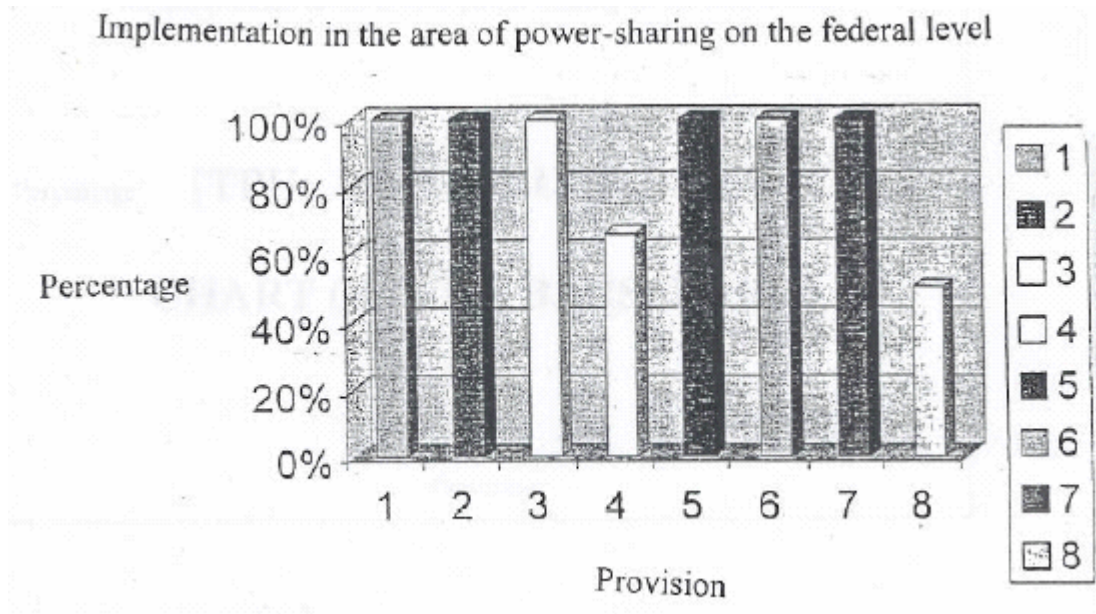
16 movement members have been appointed in the North Darfur Legislative Assembly.

Percentage implemented: 76%

16 movement members have been appointed in the West Darfur Legislative Assembly.	Percentage implemented: 76%
20 movement members have been appointed in the South Darfur Legislative Assembly.	Percentage implemented: 95%
The Agreement provides that the Deputy Speakers of the Darfur State Legislative Assemblies shall be from the movements. This was done in the North Darfur Assembly and the South Darfur Assembly, but has not yet been done in the West Darfur Assembly.	Percentage implemented: 66%
The Agreement provides for the appointment of six of the local government commissioners and six of the executive directors in the Darfur States.	
Four local government commissioners have been appointed.	Percentage implemented: 66%
One executive director has been appointed.	Percentage implemented: 16%

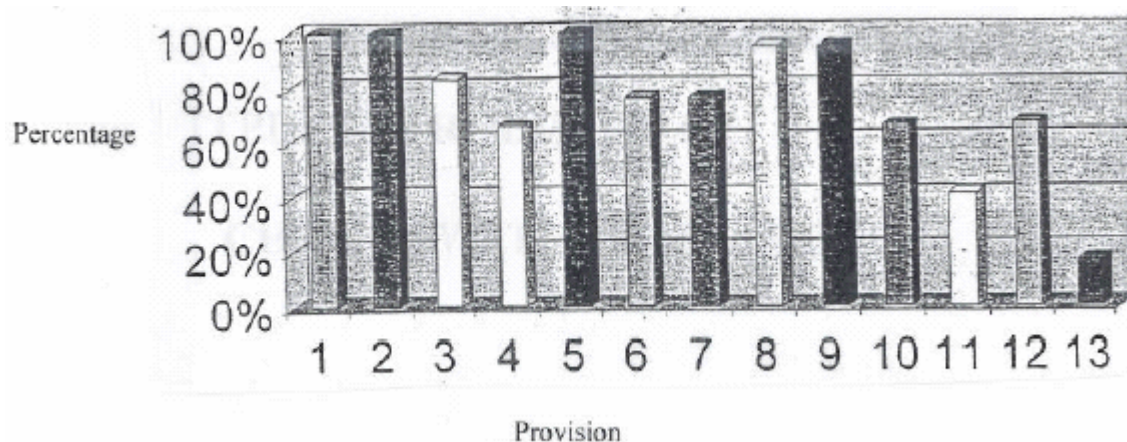
For the following issues, implementation is contingent on completion of consultations with the movements and the inclusion of non-signatories in the peace process, in accordance with the conditions and requirements of the various posts:

1. Appointment of an Adviser to the President from among Darfurians;
2. Appointment of a Federal Minister;
3. Representation and appointments in the judiciary;
4. Study of the position of Darfurians in the civil service;
5. Rectification of imbalances in the intake of Darfurians into the military academies;
6. Achievement of representation of Darfurians in other institutions and commissions.



1. A Senior Assistant to the President has been appointed.
2. The TDRA has been established.
3. Effective start of activities of the TDRA: The Authority has effectively started its work.
4. Appointments in the Federal Council of Ministers: Two State Ministers have been appointed in the Council of Ministers.
5. Appointments in the National Assembly and allocation of the post of Assembly Committee Chairman: The Agreement provides for the appointment of 12 representatives from the movements to the National Assembly, which has been done. This is in addition to the appointment of an Assembly Committee Chairman.
6. Education: A Presidential Decree has been issued exempting students of Darfurian origin from higher education fees for a period of five years. A new system has also been approved for accepting students of Darfurian origin at national universities.
7. National capital: The Agreement provides for the allocation of a federal ministerial position in Khartoum State to the movements.
8. Borders: The Technical Committee has finished drafting its report. It remains to actually demarcate the border on the ground.

Implementation in the area of power-sharing at the level of the Darfur States



1. The Agreement provides for the appointment of a Governor in the Darfur States from the movements. Percentage completed: 100%.
2. The Agreement provides for the appointment of two Deputy Governors in Darfur from the movements. Percentage completed: 100%.
3. The Agreement provides for the appointment of six Ministers in the Darfur States. Five have been appointed and one remains to be appointed. Percentage implemented: 83.3%.
4. The Agreement provides for the appointment of Advisers in the Darfur States. Percentage completed: 66%.
5. The Agreement provides for an increase in the number of seats in the Legislative Assemblies in the Darfur States. Percentage completed: 100%.
6. The Agreement provides for the allocation of 21 seats in the Legislative Assemblies in the Darfur States to the movements. Percentage completed: 76%.
7. 16 movement members have been appointed in the North Darfur Legislative Assembly. Percentage implemented: 76%.
8. 16 movement members have been appointed in the West Darfur Legislative Assembly. Percentage implemented: 76%.
9. 20 movement members have been appointed in the South Darfur Legislative Assembly. Percentage implemented: 95%.
10. The Agreement provides that the Deputy speakers of the legislative assemblies in Darfur shall be from the movements. Percentage completed: 66%.
11. The Agreement provides for the appointment of six local government commissioners and six executive directors in the Darfur States. Percentage implemented: 41%.
12. Four local government commissioners have been appointed: Percentage implemented: 67%.
13. One executive director has been appointed. Percentage implemented: 17%.

Implementation status of the Darfur-Darfur dialogue

<i>Item</i>	<i>Overall weight (Percentage)</i>	<i>Implemented (Percentage)</i>	<i>Comments</i>
1. Determining the number of participants in the Darfur-Darfur Dialogue Preparatory Committee	5	5	
2. Selecting the representatives on the Preparatory Committee	5	3	Members of the Preparatory Committee from among representatives of the civil administration and civil society organizations remain to be selected.
3. Appointing the Preparatory Committee Chairperson	5	5	
4. Selecting the Conference Chairperson	5	—	Consultations are ongoing
5. Achieving reconciliations to create a suitable climate for the conference	15	5	A number of tribal reconciliations have been concluded in the South Darfur State.
6. Workshops	15	2	A number of workshops and brainstorming sessions have been held through the mediation of some parties.
7. Overall climate for the Darfur-Darfur Dialogue	20	—	
8. General Conference	25	—	
Total	100	20	

Implementation status of wealth-sharing component

<i>Item</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Darfur Reconstruction Fund</i>	<i>Rehabilitation and Resettlement Commission</i>	<i>Darfur Land Commission</i>	<i>Compensation Fund</i>	<i>Darfur Dialogue</i>
Decree establishing the institution	5	5	5	—	5	
Appointment of the head of the institution	10	10	10	—		
Authorization of institutional structure	10	10	10	—	—	
Appointment of labour force	10	6	5	—	—	
Funding	55	10	2	—	9	
Beginning of actual work	10	2	2	—	—	
Percentage implemented	100%	43%	34%	10%	14%	

Percentage of wealth-sharing implemented: 25.25%

Humanitarian situation in Darfur

You are well aware of the humanitarian work in Darfur. For an objective and comprehensive treatment of this issue, we provide you with basic information on this partnership based on observations by the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and its various agencies.

1. *Darfur — Extent of the problem*

- Number of inhabitants: 6,750,000.
- Number of persons affected or displaced: 2,100,000.
- Number of camps: 21.
- Number of communities affected in their regions: 38.
- Humanitarian aid coverage is close to 100 per cent in the camps and among affected persons in their villages outside the camps (there are no affected population segments whom aid has not reached).

2. *Extent of the work of humanitarian aid partners*

- The number of organizations operating in Darfur has increased from 23 in 2003 to 258 in 2007. The number of workers in Darfur is 15,500, of whom approximately 12,000 are foreigners from abroad. They have approximately 3,000 vehicles and other means of conveyance and more than 400 communications facilities.

3. *Humanitarian aid facilities*

1. The Darfur Plan of Action signed jointly by the Government and the United Nations (August 2004, renewed March 2007);
2. The establishment of a set of standardized procedures to implement the fast-track procedure;
3. A standardized procedural handbook.
4. The Joint Commission (Government, United Nations, foreign organizations, national organizations, and three observers from the donor States (the European Group, the Arab Group, and the African Group)) meets each month. The last meeting, held during the first week of May 2007, issued a joint communiqué that emphasized the stability and improvement of conditions in Darfur.
5. The joint working group (Government, United Nations, organizations) meets weekly and submits reports to the Joint Commission.
6. Technical committees for the coordination of humanitarian aid in the Darfur States have been formed that include the Government, the United Nations and the organizations and meet weekly in those States.
7. The following achievements during this period are noteworthy:
 - Joint mechanisms have been established at the federal, state and local levels between the Government, the United Nations and the organizations to monitor humanitarian work in Darfur.
 - A package of 29 presidential decisions to facilitate the flow of humanitarian aid has been issued. They focus on the areas of customs, health, permits, quality control and civil aviation, and have led to the suspension of the decisions that apply to the system in normal conditions. Fast-track measures as of April 2007 include:
 1. Total transportation measures: 6,808;
 2. Total aircraft flights: 2,528;
 3. Immigration measures: 3,260;
 4. Customs measures: 475 customs exemptions.

4. *Humanitarian indicators in Darfur*

As a result of this effort and the Government's cooperation and commitment, humanitarian indicators in Darfur have stabilized at good levels. In particular:

- Food indicators are excellent. Food is available to all citizens.
- Health indicators are stable. There are no epidemic diseases in Darfur.
- Overall malnutrition rates are normal, and have declined from 21.8 per cent in 2004 to 11.9 per cent in 2007, which is below the emergency threshold (curve 1).
- Acute malnutrition rates have declined from 3.9 per cent in 2004 to 1.4 per cent in 2007 (curve 2).

- These indicators are from reports of joint teams, the Government, the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme.
- Natural mortality rates are normal, at less than 0.8 per 10,000 per day, which is below the emergency threshold.
- Prices are reasonable and stable. The price of a sack of grain is 20,000 Sudanese pounds, which is less than average and less than prices in industrial areas. Negative consequences of aid from abroad have begun to appear, since it has led to a decline in prices and changes in consumption patterns.
- The percentage coverage by humanitarian aid to affected and displaced persons is 100 per cent.
- Displaced persons and refugees in the three Darfur States are returning spontaneously. The number of returnees during January-May 2007 was over 210,000.
- Social peace and social reconciliations have clearly contributed to stability and return of refugees.
- There are programmes for village reconstruction and provision of basic services in over 200 villages.

5. *Extent of humanitarian aid distribution and coverage*

1. World Food Programme (WFP)

Foodstuffs distributed by WFP (January-May 2007)

<i>Period</i>	<i>Number of beneficiaries</i>			<i>Quantity in metric tons</i>		
	<i>Planned</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Planned</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
January	2 188 022	2 153 439	98	33 933	30 769	91
February	2 211 353	2 185 830	94	27 761	27 256	98
March-April	2 082 781	2 028 350	97	30 649	34 032	111

2. International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

Foodstuffs distributed through ICRC (February 2007)

<i>Period</i>	<i>Number of families</i>	<i>Number of individuals</i>	<i>Quantity in tons</i>
February	20 368	122 224	2 308.87
Total	20 368	122 224	2 308.87

3. Government

The Government distributed 250,000 sacks of grain from the strategic reserve in the three Darfur States to regions outside United Nations coverage during the period from January to April 2007, in particular in the areas of voluntary return.

Contribution by the Government of National Unity to humanitarian programmes in 2006 for displaced and affected persons in Darfur (\$)

Food	42 409 000
Water	23 115 000
Health	36 465 000
Shelter	9 000 000
Total	110 889 000

Funding of the Joint Plan for Darfur by sector

<i>Sector</i>	<i>Target (Dollars)</i>	<i>Implemented (Dollars)</i>	<i>Coverage (Percentage)</i>
Infrastructure	5 079 221	729 927	14.4
Returnees	12 459 000	2 425 000	19.5
Education	39 382 320	6 747 322	17.1
Food aid	489 851 809	479 720 088	97.9
Food security	23 422 221	8 757 212	37.4
Health	44 194 189	22 715 096	51.0
Mines	2 830 129	375 000	13.3
Basic services	61 593 427	31 609 476	51.3
Nutrition	18 075 943	8 088 712	44.7
Protection and human rights	25 288 396	10 111 231	40.0
Other		21 197 662	
Water and sanitation	67 681 779	23 584 634	30.8
Total humanitarian aid	798 858 434	615 863 360	77.1

6. *Violations by foreign organizations*

- Dissemination of false information and reports
- Non-compliance with regulations and laws
- Operating and travelling in areas for which they are not registered
- Improper use of materials imported to Darfur, and use of them in other areas
- Abuse of tax measures and exemptions outside Darfur
- Abuse of immigration procedures outside Darfur
- Attempts by WFP to add passengers to flight lists without notification of or permission from the authorities.

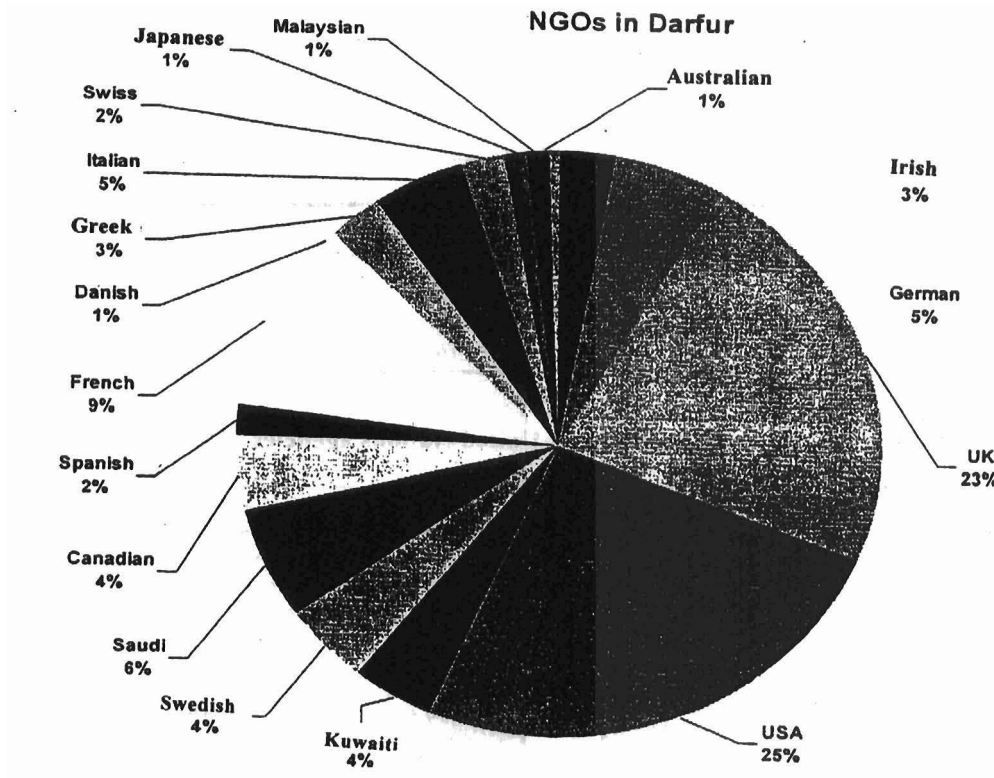
Annex I

Staff of the organizations in the Darfur States

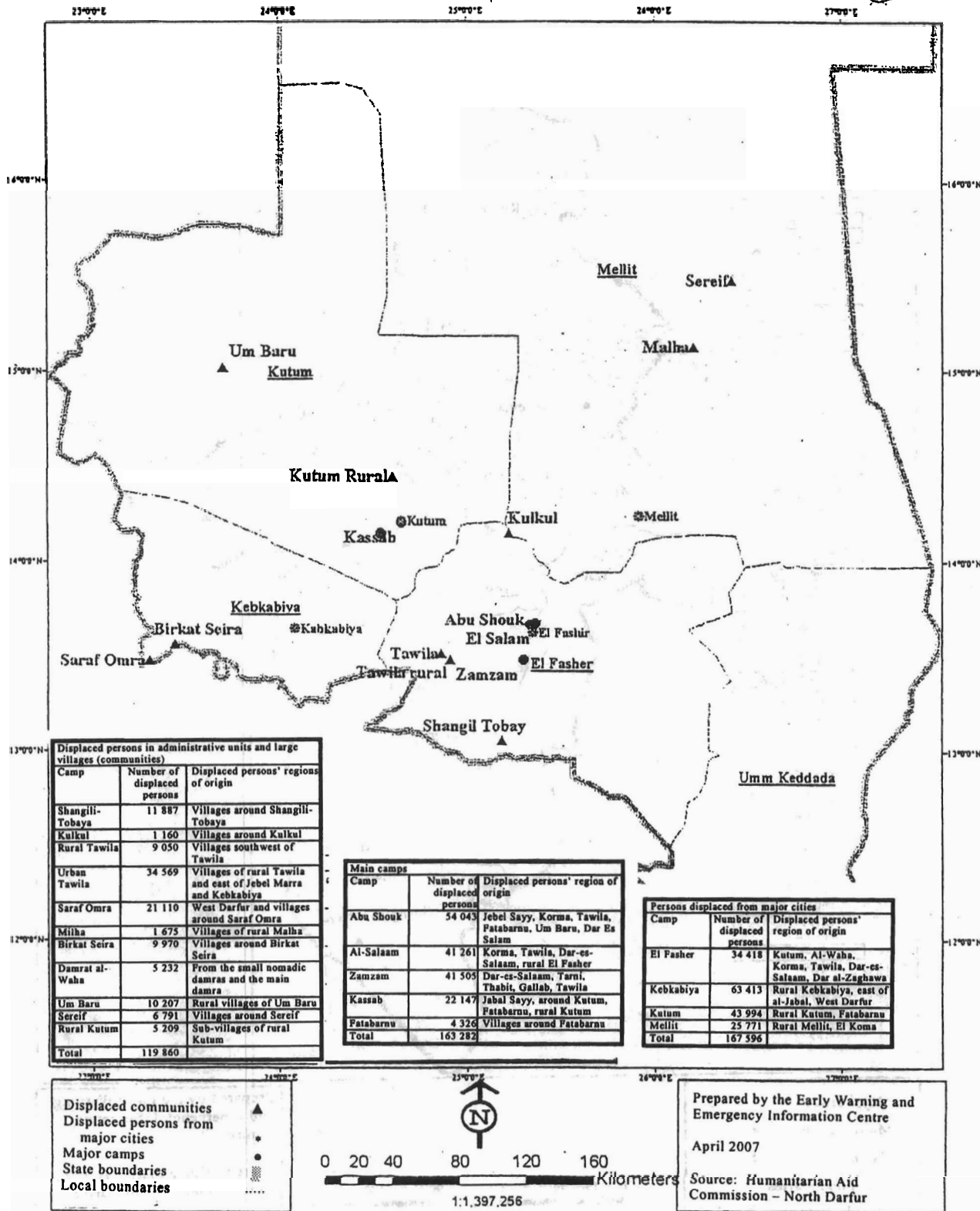
State	Number of workers in volunteer organizations		Number of workers in United Nations organizations		Total	
	Foreigners	Citizens	Foreigners	Citizens	Foreigners	Citizens
North Darfur	186	3 056	45	180	231	3 236
South Darfur	321	4 541	51	320	372	4 861
West Darfur	290	4 911	68	218	358	5 129
Total	797	12 508	164	718	961	13 226

Foreign presence in the organizations and United Nations agencies

Foreign presence	Organizations		United Nations	
		%		%
American	220	32.5	391	25.6
Swiss	202	29.6		
British	118	17.3	496	32.4
French	76	11.1	302	19.7
German	65	9.5	176	11.6
Dutch			165	10.7
Total	618		1 530	
Total			2 148	



**Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs
Humanitarian Aid Commission
Affected persons and their locations in the State of North Darfur**



Camp	Number of displaced persons	Displaced persons' regions of origin
Shangili-Tobaya	11 887	Villages around Shangili-Tobaya
Kukul	1 160	Villages around Kukul
Rural Tawila	9 050	Villages southwest of Tawila
Urban Tawila	34 569	Villages of rural Tawila and east of Jebel Marra and Kebkabiya
Saraf Omra	21 110	West Darfur and villages around Saraf Omra
Milha	1 675	Villages of rural Malha
Birkat Seira	9 970	Villages around Birkat Seira
Damrat al-Waha	5 232	From the small nomadic damras and the main damra
Um Baru	10 207	Rural villages of Um Baru
Sereif	6 791	Villages around Sereif
Rural Kutum	5 209	Sub-villages of rural Kutum
Total	119 860	

Main camps		
Camp	Number of displaced persons	Displaced persons' region of origin
Abu Shouk	54 043	Jebel Sayy, Korma, Tawila, Fatabarna, Um Baru, Dar Es Salam
Al-Salaam	41 261	Korma, Tawila, Dar-es-Salaam, rural El Fasher
Zamzam	41 505	Dar-es-Salaam, Tarni, Thabit, Gallab, Tawila
Kassab	22 147	Jabal Sayy, around Kutum, Fatabarna, rural Kutum
Fatabarna	4 326	Villages around Fatabarna
Total	163 282	

Persons displaced from major cities		
Camp	Number of displaced persons	Displaced persons' region of origin
El Fasher	34 418	Kutum, Al-Waha, Korma, Tawila, Dar-es-Salaam, Dar al-Zaghawa
Kebkabiya	63 413	Rural Kebkabiya, east of al-Jabal, West Darfur
Kutum	43 994	Rural Kutum, Fatabarna
Mellit	25 771	Rural Mellit, El Koma
Total	167 596	

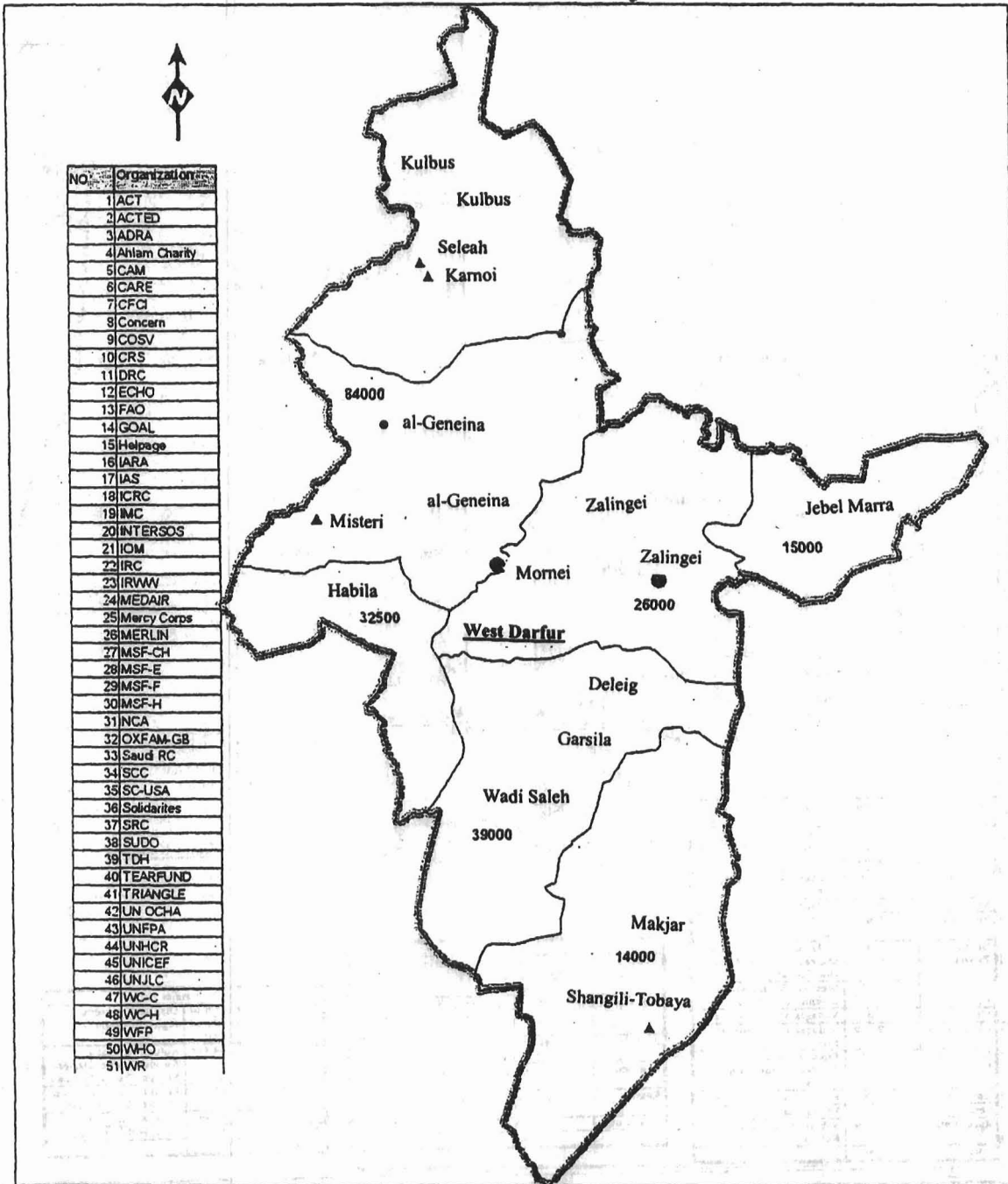
Displaced communities ▲
 Displaced persons from major cities ●
 Major camps ●
 State boundaries ———
 Local boundaries

0 20 40 80 120 160 Kilometers
 1:1,397,256

Prepared by the Early Warning and
 Emergency Information Centre
 April 2007
 Source: Humanitarian Aid
 Commission – North Darfur

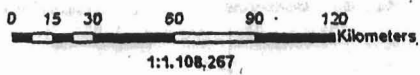


**Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs
Humanitarian Aid Commission
Affected persons and their locations in the State of West Darfur**



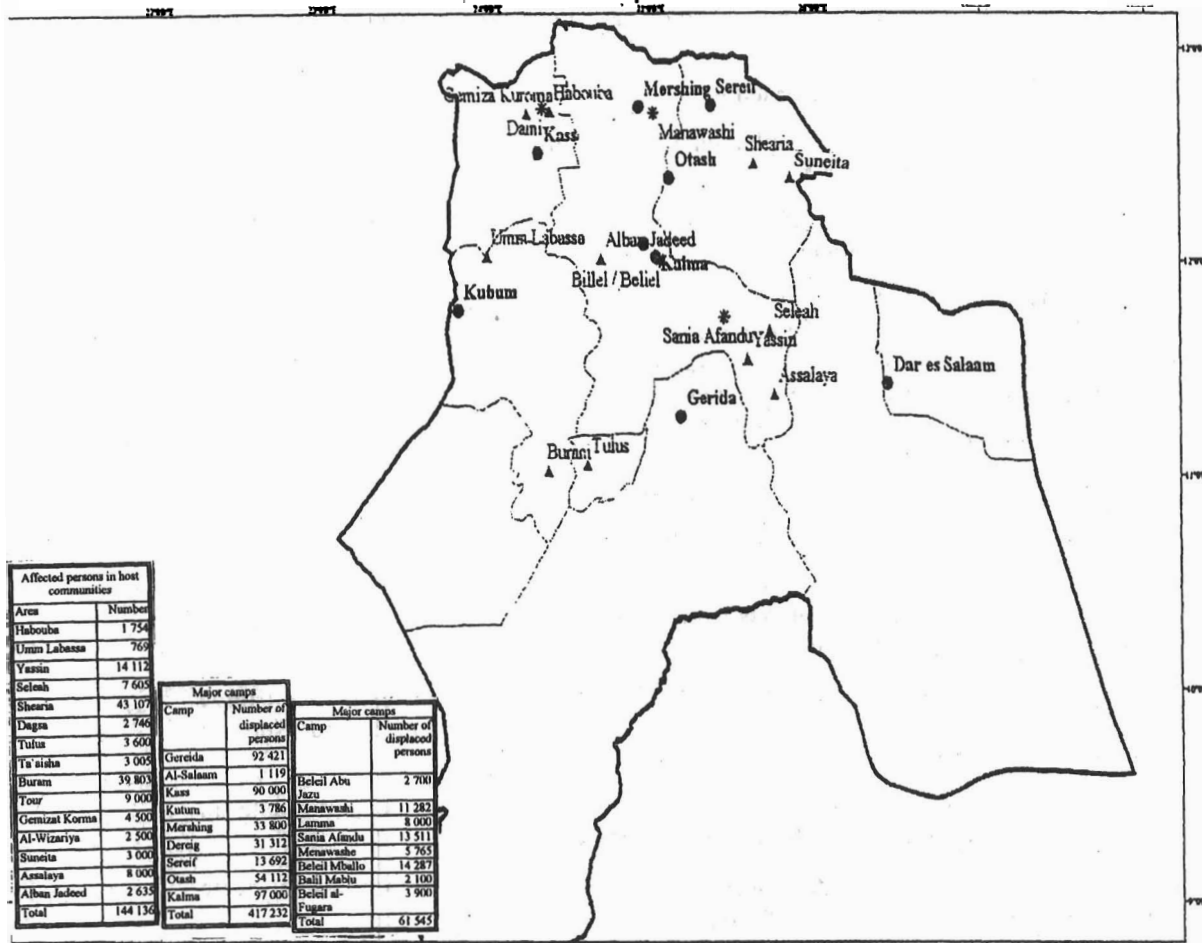
NO.	Organizations
1	ACT
2	ACTED
3	ADRA
4	Ahiam Charity
5	CAM
6	CARE
7	CFGI
8	Concern
9	COSV
10	CRS
11	DRC
12	ECHO
13	FAO
14	GOAL
15	Helpage
16	IARA
17	IAS
18	ICRC
19	IMC
20	INTEROS
21	IOM
22	IRC
23	IRVVV
24	MEDAIR
25	Mercy Corps
26	MERLIN
27	MSF-CH
28	MSF-E
29	MSF-F
30	MSF-H
31	NCA
32	OXFAM-GB
33	Saudi RC
34	SCC
35	SC-USA
36	Solidarites
37	SRC
38	SUDO
39	TDH
40	TEARFUND
41	TRIANGLE
42	UN OCHA
43	UNFPA
44	UNHCR
45	UNICEF
46	UNJLC
47	WC-C
48	WC-H
49	WFP
50	WHO
51	WR

Major cities	•
Major camps	●
Camps	▲
Local boundaries	—
State boundaries	▨



Prepared by the Early Warning and Emergency Information Centre
Source: Humanitarian Aid Commission – North Darfur
October 2006

**Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs
Humanitarian Aid Commission
Affected persons and their locations in the State of South Darfur**

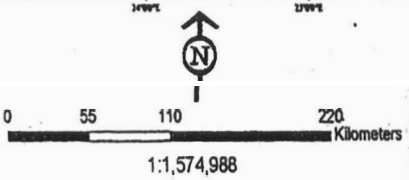


Affected persons in host communities	
Area	Number
Habouba	1 754
Umm Labassa	769
Yassin	14 112
Seleah	7 605
Shearia	43 107
Dagna	2 746
Tulua	3 600
Tu' aisha	3 005
Buram	39 803
Tour	9 000
Gemizal Korma	4 500
Al-Wizariya	2 500
Suneita	3 000
Assalaya	8 000
Alban Jideed	2 635
Total	144 136

Major camps	
Camp	Number of displaced persons
Gereida	92 421
Al-Salaam	1 119
Kass	90 000
Kutum	3 786
Marshig	33 800
Dereig	31 312
Sereif	13 692
Odash	54 112
Kalma	97 000
Total	417 232

Major camps	
Camp	Number of displaced persons
Belzei Abu Jazu	2 700
Manawashi	11 282
Lama	8 000
Sania Afanda	13 511
Manawashi	3 765
Belzei Mballa	14 287
Belzei Mabbu	2 100
Belzei al-Fogara	3 900
Total	61 545

- Displaced communities •
- Major camps ●
- Host communities ▲
- Local boundaries - - - - -
- State boundaries - - - - -



Prepared by the Early Warning and
Emergency Information Centre

April 2006
Source: Humanitarian Aid
Commission – South Darfur

Implementation of the security arrangements component

1. Immediately after the signing of the Agreement, orders were given for a ceasefire.
2. All detainees have been released.
3. Many of the Government implementation commissions and joint commissions with the movements have been formed.
4. The Government presented a plan to disarm the Janjaweed armed militias on schedule according to the Agreement.
5. The Government has presented plans and information relating to the implementation of security arrangements, including plans to absorb former movement combatants, on which consultation is now ongoing among the signatory movements, the African Union and the Government of the Sudan.
6. A large number of militia members have been disarmed.
7. The commissions have been formed.
8. The Non-Military Logistical Support Committee and the Integration Commission have been formed.
9. The Integration Commission has begun work and is preparing integration plans in coordination with the movements.
10. The support committee has provided non-military logistical support on three occasions since November 2006. Preparations have been made to provide support for a fourth time in April 2007.
11. Field committees have been formed to conduct surveys and compile data on forces as a first step to facilitate logistical support and integration.
12. The Commander of the African Union forces has sent commissions to locate sites to pave the way for the integration phase.
13. The Transitional Darfur Regional Government (TDRA) has been formed, headed by the Senior Assistant to the President.
14. TDRA offices and headquarters have been opened in El Fasher, Nyala and El Geneina.
15. Work is ongoing to inaugurate a security arrangements committee in El Fasher, Nyala and El Geneina.
16. On 12 November in Addis Ababa, the Joint Commission decided to open a second chamber of the Ceasefire Commission in El Fasher, to be overseen by the Commander of the African Union forces with the non-signatories in El Fasher only, who made a commitment:
 - (a) To observe a comprehensive ceasefire;
 - (b) To refrain from obstructing the African Union forces, the signatories, aid or citizens;
 - (c) To open routes for the movement of aid and citizens;

(d) To move towards political dialogue in order to join the peace in accordance with the Peace Agreement.

17. A meeting of the Joint Commission was held in El Fasher on 7 February 2007 to embark on an implementation agenda for this agreement in the area of security arrangements (disarmament and implementation of the remaining provisions).

18. Non-military support for movement fighters has been requested from the African Union and the international community (through a commission provided for in the Agreement). Government is currently undertaking this voluntarily.

19. Security of displaced person camps has been strengthened in coordination with the African Union and the signatories in accordance with the Agreement.

20. Security of aid convoys has been strengthened in coordination with the African Union, the Government, relevant organizations and the signatories.

21. The Joint Commission held its sixth session in Khartoum on 9 May 2007.

While we continue to proceed with these efforts in the area of security arrangements, we must point out the following:

1. Despite the continuing claims that abound in the international media about conditions in Darfur, there has been a definite decline in violence as regards the activity of armed organizations that rejected the Abuja Agreement. Skirmishes and clashes between them and the signatories have diminished considerably, while no incidents have been recorded between Government forces and the signatories for a long time.
2. It should also be noted that the violence has diminished geographically: most localities are now considered safe in general, as acts of violence are confined to a small number of localities in North and West Darfur.
3. This is aside from tribal conflicts in South Darfur (which have fallen off considerably in recent days following recent reconciliation efforts made with the support and sponsorship of the Government and State authorities) and the problem of gangs and outlaw elements who exploit the current situation in Darfur to engage in criminal activities.

While this is the overall picture of security conditions in Darfur, it should not escape our notice that successfully addressing security conditions in Darfur is directly linked to achieving full peace and stability.