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HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL Eighth session Agenda item 4

HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATIONS THAT REQUIRE THE COUNCIL'S ATTENTION

Note verbale dated 13 June 2008 from the Permanent Mission of the Sudan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Sudan to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and, with reference to the Mission's note to the latter dated 15 May 2008 concerning the armed attack by the armed Justice and Equality Movement on the Sudanese capital on 10 May 2008, has the honour to report that the Mission of the Sudan has received a letter dated 2 June 2008 signed by the High Commissioner for Human Rights in reply to a previous communication to her Office by the Mission on the same subject.

The High Commissioner for Human Rights expressed her strong condemnation of the attack of 10 May 2008 carried out by the Justice and Equality Movement which reportedly led to the death of civilians. The High Commissioner wrote: "I express my sincere condolences to the families who have lost ones as a result of the fighting. My Office continues to call for all parties to the conflict in Darfur to comply with international human rights and international humanitarian law in order to avoid further loss of life and destruction of property. I therefore condemn the use of child combatants by all parties and welcome attempts to enforce the prohibition on the enforced and voluntary recruitment of children into armed groups".

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Sudan requests that the present note be distributed as a document of the Council to all Member and Observer States.

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